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HARDING
U N I V E R S I T Y



SPRING SING
Harding University
presents the 35th
annual Spring Sing
performance.
Section B

Student Group Pushes For Fair Trade On Campus iTunes U

Aramark, Java City Now Offering Choices Directly From Producers

By CARA GUGLIEMON
assistant copy editor

Harding students created the social justice group Fair Trade(ers) this January to inform the student body and surrounding communities about global injustices and enact creative projects to promote fair trade. Because of this group's efforts, Java City and Aramark now carry fair trade products.

Fair trade is "a system of exchange that seeks to create greater equity and partnership in the international trading system," according to the Web site fairtradefederation.org. It allows producers to earn a living wage under safe working conditions while providing consumers with affordable, quality products such as tea, coffee, food, clothing and house wares.

Free trade, the traditional laissez-faire system of trading, aims to provide consumers with the lowest prices for products. Senior Andrew Fraser, one of the group's co-founders, said the producers of fair trade products usually earn below a living wage.

"Fair trade ensures that the person who actually grew the coffee bean gets paid a living wage," Fraser said.

The idea for the group hatched in a classroom and began growing in a coffeehouse. After watching

a video on fair trade in Dr. Mark Elrod's International Relations class, Fraser said he knew he wanted to do something about the issue.

"I saw the video and thought, 'what the heck — why aren't we doing this?,' Fraser said. "There's no reason not to."

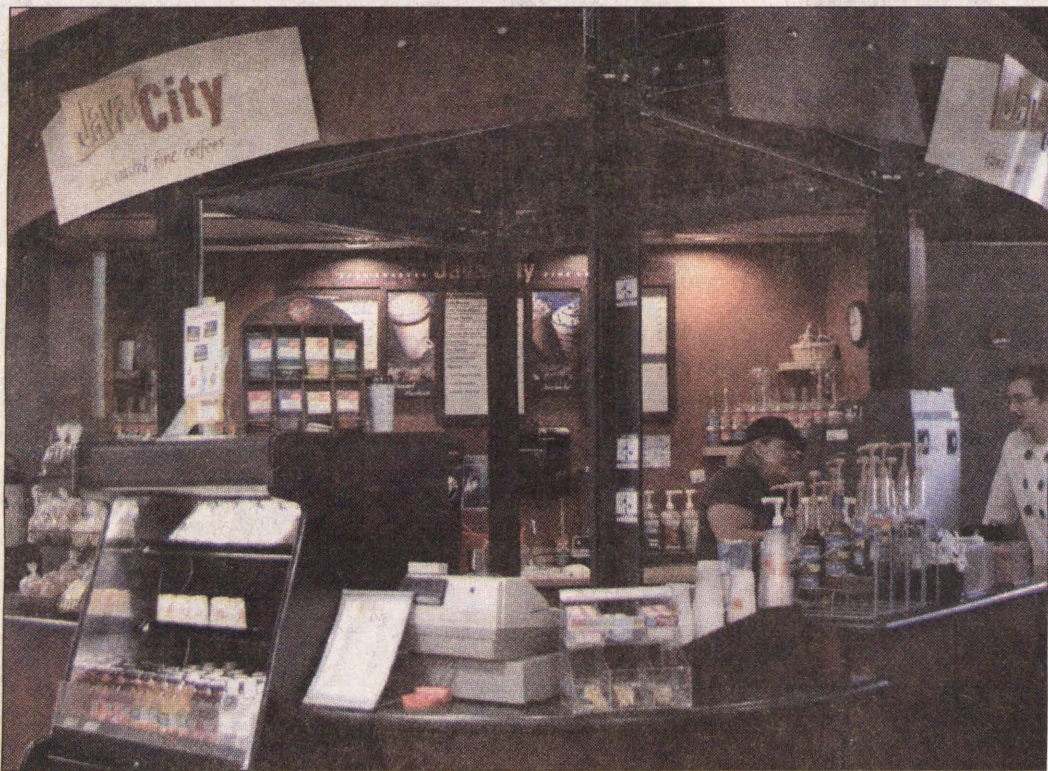
A day later, Fraser ran into freshman Alan Elrod, who also knew about fair trade. After Fraser casually mentioned the fair trade video, Fraser and Elrod weighed ideas and decided to form a student group to tackle the issue.

Co-led by Fraser, Elrod and freshman Melissa Scott, group members said Jesus' service-oriented lifestyle and commitment to human dignity drives their action.

"A huge part of Christ's mission was freeing people from oppression and from poverty, and that's a big part of what this is all about and why we're so passionate about all of it," Scott said.

The group bases its mission on Micah 6:8, where God exhorts His servants "to act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." With their foundational verse stressing action, the group highlights that followers of Christ must do more than speak about God's love.

Elrod and the group members



Java City, which has locations in the students center and library, now offers a "fair trade" option for several coffee products. Aramark now orders fair trade food ingredients for the school cafeteria.

ALYSSA MORAN | The Bison

are working to give producers fair wages through Harding's purchasing power. The group teamed with Aramark to bring fair trade products to campus.

Java City in the student center now creates espresso drinks exclusively with fair trade coffee beans. Although Java City employee Michael Landon said a bag of fair trade beans cost \$10 more than a bag of regular beans, coffee prices will not increase. Landon

said student support would allow Aramark to continue stocking fair trade beans.

"Let us know you want it or they are not going to buy it anymore," Landon said.

He also said making sacrifices to support fair trade is worth it.

"I have been to coffee country and know people that are dying because they get cheated by the buyers," Landon said. "I believe it

is our duty as Christians to help the poor and dying so when we are given the option of giving them fair wages we should. I can deal with drinking drip when the Fair Trade espresso runs out so a friend in Uganda can have the \$1.50 to buy malaria meds for his baby."

Aramark is also ordering fair trade ingredients for the cafeteria, according to Food Services see TRADE page 3a

Assists Student Learning HU Professors Utilize Podcasts To Share Lessons

By SAMANTHA HOLSCBACH
news editor

Some Harding professors have recently used iTunes, specifically iTunes U, as a valuable means of sharing lectures and other media online with students.

"iTunes U is free for students, and it is available to anyone," said Tim Westbrook, an adjunct professor for the College of Bible and Religion. "I like the idea of a church in Australia being able to download Don McLaughlin's lectures for free use in their Bible classes. They may also be used for personal spiritual growth by anyone, whether or not they take the class. This service in my view is very much in line with the mission of Harding."

In addition to Westbrook, other Harding faculty members have or will begin placing lectures and see iTUNES page 3a

Off Broadway



Members of Gamma Sigma Phi, Iota Chi and Pi Theta Phi freeze in place at the end of their show entitled "New York Minute." The show includes the costumed likeness of tourists, paperboys and Broadway singers.

ALYSSA MORAN | The Bison

Spring Sing Needn't Glitter To Be Gold

By MARISSA SHEPARD
student reporter

For the past 13 years, Harding University's "Spring Sing" has had a theme that defines, sets the stage and captivates audiences for the two and half or so hours of singing and choreography performed on stage. This year's theme, however, might be a difficult one to grasp. The theme? "Unfinished."

What does this theme really mean? "Unfinished"? Spring Sing Director Dr. Steve Frye has also been pondering that same question. Where could this theme lead? What ending do the directors and producers have in mind? What is their vision?

The 2008 Spring Sing theme was actually was tossed around by Frye and Spring Sing Producer Cindee Stockstill almost as a joke about three years ago when they realized that Easter occurred so early in the year this year. But as time went by, the idea of an "Unfinished" show started to

become a reality.

In the opening to the Spring Sing program, Frye's welcome describes to the audience how the evening will unfold and explains what it means for something to actually be unfinished.

"The dictionary states that in regard to an object, unfinished means 'not having been given an attractive surface appearance as the final stage of manufacture,'" Frye said. "It would suggest that the object is in process, a rough cut of what will eventually be beautiful."

Usually, students would have another two weeks of preparation for their shows. This year, that is not the case. Spring Sing's hosts, hostesses and ensemble members embrace this fact and incorporate it into the show as they perform at a time they would be rehearsing during other years.

"The show unfolds as an unfinished rehearsal — recorded announcements sound like out-see SPRING SING page 3a

HU Community Surrounds Johnson Family Following Loss

By HEATHER BROWNING
opinions editor

Holding true to the long-standing tradition of providing encouragement to those in need, Harding students and faculty rallied around one of their own this week by offering much needed support during a time of grief.

In an attempt to show love and support to a grieving family, the Student Association hosted a baby shower Wednesday in the student center for senior Mary Johnson, widow of Brian Luke Johnson, a senior healthcare management major who died suddenly March 11. He was 27 years old.

Brian Luke is survived by his wife, Mary; one-year old daughter, Kaitlyn; parents, Bill and Betty Johnson; a brother, Brandon Johnson and his wife, Kristy; and grandparents, Dick and Joyce Johnson. Mary is due to deliver the couple's second daughter, Kennedy, in mid-April.

The cause of death is currently unknown, but according to senior Mallory Gatlin, Brian Luke's sister-in-law, traces of staph infection

were found in Brian Luke's blood at the time of death. More details will be provided once results of the autopsy are received from Little Rock some time next week.

According to Gatlin, Brian Luke was a loving father and husband and a terrific friend who tried to live every day to the fullest. Gatlin's family has been friends with the Johnsons since they were very young.

"Brian Luke was an awesome guy," Gatlin said. "He tried every day to be better than the one before. He was a loving father and husband. I have never seen a couple as attached as Mary and Brian or a dad so excited at every diaper and every smile he received from his baby girl."

"All of my memories of Brian are full of laughter and joy. There are many times that he would come to our home in Alabama and he just never ceased to surprise me. He loved his girls, Mary, Kaitlyn and unborn Kennedy, and every memory is filled with his love for them."

Once news of Brian Luke's untimely death surfaced on the

"I have never seen a couple so attached as Mary and Brian or a dad so excited at every diaper and every smile he received from his baby girl."

Mallory Gatlin
senior

Harding campus, the SA began searching for ways to help, SA president Charlie Walker said. Andrew Baker, director of Institute for Church and Family and an SA sponsor, brought the idea of a baby shower to Walker late last week, and the Johnson family was contacted about the shower over the weekend.

"When Charlie [Walker] called me Friday night and mentioned the shower, I was overwhelmed with the love and thought that has gone into this," Gatlin said. "Andrew Baker contacted my sister on Sunday night and the joy in see SHOWER page 3a



JEFF MONTGOMERY | Public Relations

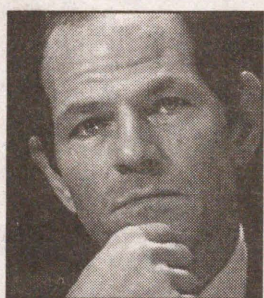
Mary Johnson holds her daughter, Kaitlyn, at a baby shower held for the family in the student center Wednesday. The Student Association raised more than \$4,000 for the family.

The Newsreel

N.Y. Gov. Spitzer
Resigns Over Scandal

Governor Eliot Spitzer of New York stepped down from office last Wednesday in the face of a sex scandal that has rocked his personal life and made him the target of contempt and tabloid interest all over the world.

Spitzer, who is married with three children, stands accused of paying thousands of dollars for the services of the high-end prostitution ring Emperor's Club VIP. The prostitution ring was under investigation by the FBI, and Spitzer's name came up in wiretapped conversations and e-mails. The governor was implicated when the report was made public on March 6.



SPITZER

The calls for resignation were immediate. Spitzer, whom the FBI report refers to as "Client 9," had built his reputation as a crusader for ethical conduct in business. He was characterized by some as overzealous and arrogant in his campaigns against shady dealings on Wall Street, political corruption, and, yes, even prostitution. News that the so-called "Sheriff of Wall Street" was stepping down brought cheers from the Wall Street traders themselves.

Lt. Governor David Paterson has since taken over as governor of New York.

D.C. Gun Ban Under Fire

The Supreme Court is currently considering repealing a total handgun ban in the District of Columbia.

Despite having one of the strictest gun laws in the country, Washington, D.C., has been repeatedly labeled as America's "murder capital." Opponents of the ban claim that law-abiding citizens have no means to defend themselves from gun-toting criminals. Those who support the D.C. ban worry about violence escalating further if more firearms find their way onto the streets.

The key argument for both sides is the 2nd Amendment to the Constitution, which can either be interpreted as applying to individuals or to a state militia. Though the Supreme Court Justices are leaning towards the individual-rights interpretation, a final decision will likely not be reached until June.

Riots, Crackdown
In Tibet

Protests against Chinese rule in Tibet's capitol city of Lhasa turned violent last Friday, with witnesses reporting monks burning Chinese shops and attacking non-Tibetans in the streets.

Formerly an autonomous region in the Himalayan Mountains, Tibet was absorbed into China in 1951 after Chinese forces invaded and exiled the Tibetan government to India. Since then several failed uprisings have taken place. Friday's violence coincided with the anniversary of the first Tibetan uprising in 1959.

The Chinese government has responded quickly and thoroughly to the riots in Lhasa. Foreign reporters have been barred from the area, and state-run Chinese media outlets have downplayed the incidents to the extent that some Chinese citizens don't even know about them. The only information spared by the government censors depicts the rioters as "mobs" and blames the exiled Tibetan spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, for orchestrating the violence.

The Dalai Lama has denied any role in the violence and urges the protestors to work for a peaceful resolution. He also called for an independent investigation into China's crackdown on protestors and an end to the "cultural genocide" that Tibetans have endured under decades of Chinese rule.

Man Fails To Pop
The Question

Lefkos Hajji, an East Londoner who had spent \$12,000 on the perfect engagement ring, thought it would be clever to inflate a dozen balloons and place the ring inside one of them. As his girlfriend popped the balloons with a pin, he would pop the question.

Hajji's plan never got off the ground, but his ring did. As he walked out of the jewelry shop, a strong gust of wind blew the balloons out of his hand and into the London sky. Hajji tried to follow the balloons, but ultimately lost track of them. He still holds out hope that someone, somewhere will find his ring.

Hajji's girlfriend has reportedly stopped talking to him.

The NUMBER

9,305

— The total amount of time, in years, people have spent watching Youtube videos since the site's launch.

The Window



TAYLOR DURHAM | The Bison

Junior Daniel Lee plays his saxophone as the Harding Jazz Band practices for Spring Sing. The Jazz Band will be featured throughout the program, playing along with singing hosts and hostesses and occasionally breaking away to jam on their own.

The WATERCOOLER

"You won't see me as a vice presidential candidate ... I'm running for president."

— Democratic presidential hopeful Barack Obama, publicly rejecting rival Democrat Hillary Clinton's suggestion that he run as her vice president.

"By defeating Al Qaeda in Iraq, we will show the world that ... men and women who love liberty can defeat the terrorists."

— President Bush, speaking on the 5-year anniversary of the invasion of Iraq. Though the war has lasted longer than his initial 6-month prediction in 2003, Bush remains confident and stands by his policies in Iraq.

"Absolutely no religious rites of any kind, relating to any religious faith, should be associated with my funeral."

— Science-fiction writer Arthur C. Clarke, who died Wednesday at the age of 90. Clarke was best known as the author of "2001: A Space Odyssey."

"If there is no check on your freedom of words, then let your hearts be open to the freedom of our actions."

— Osama bin Laden, in a video released Wednesday to members of the European Union. Bin Laden threatened Europe over its support of Danish

cartoons depicting the prophet Muhammad.

"We had psychoanalytic sessions ... Writing together with someone is very intimate."

— Pop star and recent Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee Madonna, on co-writing her new album, "Hard Candy," with Justin Timberlake.

"He's like a mosquito in your bedroom. You know he's flying around and you want to swat him, but you can't be bothered."

— American Idol judge Simon Cowell, elaborating on his feelings toward the show's host, Ryan Seacrest.

The CALENDAR

MAR. 21

Bison Daze
SPRING SING

"Little Shop of Horrors"
7 p.m., Ulrey Center

MAR. 22

Bison Daze
SPRING SING

"Little Shop of Horrors"
2 p.m., Ulrey Center

MAR. 23

Easter
"Little Shop of Horrors"
2 p.m. & 8 p.m.
Ulrey Center

MAR. 24

Men's Clubs Meet
"Little Shop of Horrors"
7 p.m., Ulrey Center

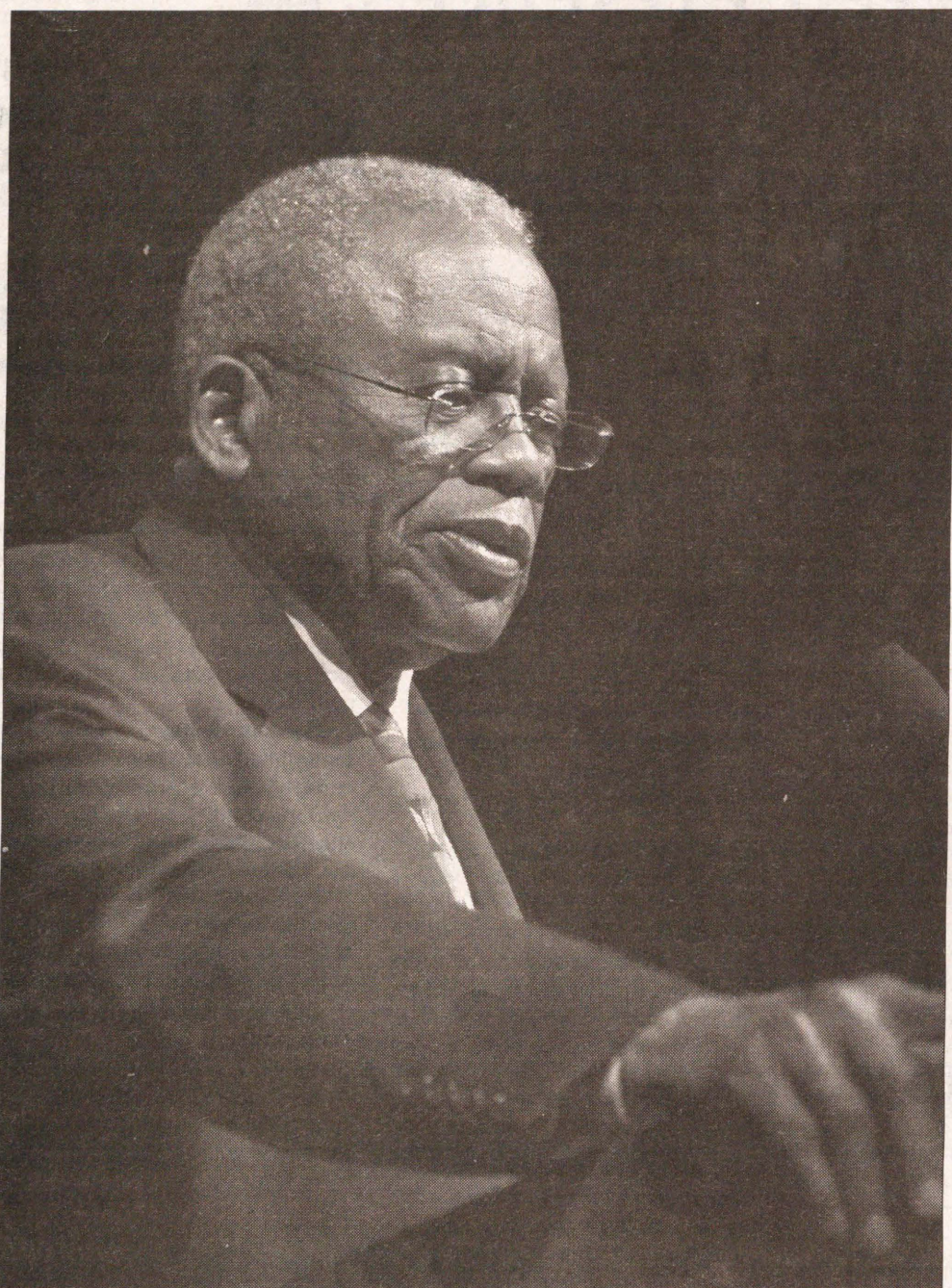
MAR. 25

Bison Baseball, 1 p.m.

MAR. 26

No events

Gray Matter



TAYLOR DURHAM | The Bison

American Studies Institute speaker Fred Gray addresses the Administration Auditorium crowd last Thursday night. Gray served as the attorney for Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King Jr.

iTUNES: iTunes Adds To Student Learning

CONTINUED from 1a
videos on iTunes. These include Don McLaughlin and Nathan Guy, both from the College of Bible and Religion and Amy Adair, who works in the Center for Math and Science Education.

The lectures are available in the form of podcasts, which are recordings in the form of MP3s accessible on the Internet, according to Mike James, the chair of the Department of Communication. James said he thinks more professors will use iTunes in conjunction with their classes in the future.

The transition to fully exploiting the technology available today may follow the trend of other advances, in which five to 10 years were necessary for innovations to become mainstream.

"[Professors] are used to us-

ing the traditional methods," James said.

Harding has used iTunes as a means to post a variety of media for over one year.

"The first content that we began posting in iTunes U were chapel files, so there are chapels that date back to fall 2006 through the present," said Beverly Rose, Harding's Media Center Manager and iTunes U administrator. "The lectureship from the fall 2007 is posted as well as content from admissions, E-Learning, sports, etc. An interesting talk on the history of Harding University by Dr. Neale Pryor is available. You can also listen to the Harding University fight song and alma mater."

There are several perks for professors and students to use and

share lectures on iTunes.

"[iTunes] saves postage cost, DVD duplication costs and saves students time," Westbrook said. "They can download the material whenever they want to, rather than having to wait on DVDs to arrive in the mail."

To access Harding lectures and programs on iTunes, one must go to www.harding.edu/itunesu and click the link, "Launch Harding iTunes U." A Web site will open that leads to Harding's iTunes U page. The final step is then to choose the desired programs from the listed courses, which can be listened to directly on iTunes U or when synced to an iPod.

All in all, iTunes is an innovation of the digital age that is swiftly transforming into a valuable tool of higher education.

SPRING SING: Set Complete By Show's End

CONTINUED from 1b
takes, the first number is stopped and given notes and then completed," Frye said. "The set is obviously incomplete. We watch acts getting into place behind a translucent [curtain]. By the end of the production, all the set is finished and everything is running smoothly."

One common misconception about the social clubs' involvement in the show is that they are not required to incorporate the theme throughout their performance in the competition. The theme helps create a flow throughout the show that hosts, hostesses, and ensemble members emphasize.

This year's Spring Sing theme

promises to be an exciting presentation as audience members have the opportunity to see a "staged" view of what occurs behind the scenes prior to performances. So as you enter the Benson Auditorium, the curtains go up and you see an unfinished set on stage, do not be alarmed. As Frye said, "Welcome to the rehearsal."

TRADE: Students Pursue Spiritual Change

CONTINUED from 1b
Director Judy Hart. While only the tomatoes are currently fair trade, Hart said she hopes to have a fair trade product daily in the cafeteria by the fall semester, using fair trade fish as well as vegetables and fruits.

"I think it's great to be able to be in a position to actually contribute to those farmers and those families by buying the product that's available to us," Hart said. "I think it's just our responsibility to do that."

Despite Hart's enthusiasm for using fair trade products, making the change takes time.

"It's just so much red tape," Hart said. "But [the vendors] are working with us. They haven't shut the door and said no."

Hart and the fair trade group's efforts influenced other area schools. Since fair trade products are currently special orders for Aramark vendors, Aramark must take so many boxes of product per week for the vendors to keep the products in stock. If other area schools stock the products, the per-week requirement would be easier to meet. Hart said the University of Central Arkansas agreed to keep fair trade goods in stock, John Brown University will stock the products once Aramark gets vendor approvals, and Henderson State, along with the University of Arkansas in Monticello, may join the effort.

Hart said Aramark could nationally be using fair trade products within a year and that the students will accomplish their goals.

"It's not a fly-by-night thing with them," she said. "It's in their souls."

Members also searched the community for fair trade shopping options and asked some Searcy businesses to carry fair trade products. One downtown shop, Gregory's, is enthusiastic about fair trade and carries fair trade coffee and chocolate.

"For any business that's going to be willing to do this, we have to promise them, 'You're going to get support from our student base, that we're going to buy from you because we feel like you're doing a good thing,'"

SHOWER: SA Raises \$4,000 For Family

CONTINUED from 1a
her voice as she told my mother and me was priceless. She needs to know that people are thinking about her and will help support her and this was a great way for the student body to do so."

SA members juniors Beth Strate and Anna Justus and senior Erin Starnes organized a group of girls to decorate the student center, bake cookies and make punch, as well as man the booth in the student center during the shower. Following dress rehearsal for Spring Sing on Tuesday night, these girls began decorating the student center with pink and white balloons and making final preparations for Wednesday's shower.

"There was a need to reach out and serve one of our fellow students, so the SA decided to join in the effort to extend our love to Mary Johnson," Justus said. "It isn't everyday you are able to provide [support to those in need] and welcome a

new life, when so many are still grieving the loss of another that was so dear to them. This [was a] time when we [could] take a step back and help our sister in Christ put the pieces back together."

Alan Elrod said. "[W]hether it's just a new product in the store and people aren't used to it or they're just a small, independent business like Gregory's, they're going to need that support if they want to perpetuate this movement."

Although the grassroots quality of the student group may resemble many political activist groups, members emphasized their different focus. "Jon McRay said something to the effect of when it comes down to it, any issue like this ... really is a political issue, not in the sense of the politics that be, not in the sense of left and right and Republican and Democrat, but in the sense of the fact that Christ himself, He revolutionized the souls of man," Scott said. "It's politics in the sense that when Christ came, the structure of society was changed."

The group said they realize politics are generally a part of change, but highlighted a difference between seeking to effect change and the results of that change.

"Politics follows the trend of the masses," Elrod said. "And if the masses have come to this realization of the soul that we need to change things, we need to work on this, then I think it's just the natural next step."

"It's not political in the sense that we're not seeking to lobby any political groups. We just know that it's the natural course of things, that when people get passionate, it trickles into everything. It permeates all parts of life. I think other people look at it that we're going to have political change so that we can have social change so that we can have spiritual change. We would say the opposite: we want to have spiritual change so that we can have social change so that we can have political change."

Members of the fair trade group emphasized influencing more than the college arena.

"We're in college in America — we're not just Americans, we're college students," Elrod said. "We're in a place for four years where we basically get to pick and choose what we want

to do with our lives, and there are so many kids out there that probably want to do something a whole lot different than go work on a farm."

Looking beyond college life culminates in looking beyond some habits of thought about Christian life, according to the group.

"Sometimes we get so focused on the reward and how much better heaven's going to be than the world we live in, we lose focus on the fact that we're supposed to make this place better to live in too," Elrod said.

In addition to their inclusive mission statements, the group also welcomes any one, whether college student or faculty member.

"Don't let people think, 'They've got it covered, they've got everybody they need,'" Elrod said. "No. We need [all people]."

Scott said anyone who wants to be involved in fair trade can buy fair trade espresso drinks from Java City, support local businesses through buying their fair trade products, attend the group's 7 p.m. Monday meetings, ask stores to carry fair trade products and tell other people about fair trade.

Planning continues for the group. Hoping to expand and work with multiple social justice issues, Elrod said the group will continue sharing the news of fair trade and plans to hold regularly scheduled information meetings, create a Christian fair trade education packet and gather a list of companies that carry fair trade products.

"I think if we realized how much the people around us are sitting there nodding their heads too, we could literally change the world," Elrod said. "I don't think there's a limit to it. We live in a world where we've gone to the moon, and where we've tamed rivers, and where we've invented cures for so many diseases, and that's just the ambition of man. I think the ambition of man coupled with the will of God can move mountains."

"If anybody hears this, if anybody reads this, if anybody sees something about this and they feel anything in them say, 'I should do something,' do it."

"By everyone giving a little, we were about to make a huge difference."

Charlie Walker
SA President

[young children]. Gift cards, diapers, encouraging notes and financial help are just small things everyone can do. By everyone giving a little, we were about to make a huge difference.

"[The response was] overwhelming and bigger than we could have imagined. The best part was being Mary and the Johnson family. Seeing the look on their faces allowed us to know this was a success."

The SA office will continue taking baby gifts and donations for the remainder of the day. Memorial donations may also be made to Downtown Church of Christ for Kaitlyn and Kennedy's education fund.



GRAND OPENING

Saturday, Nov. 10th

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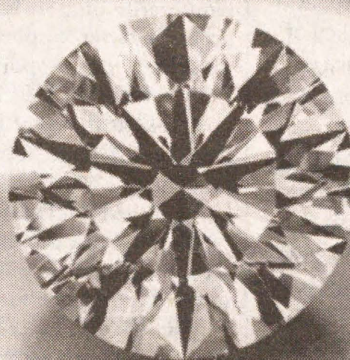
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A HARDING UNIVERSITY
STUDENT PUBLICATION

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INFORMATION

The Bison is a campus newspaper, edited and largely financed by students, seeking to provide high-quality journalistic discussion of issues of concern to the Harding community.

It also serves as an educational tool for students, providing practical experience to enhance skills learned in the classroom.

The Bison recognizes its responsibility to be accurate and objective in its reporting while upholding the Christian ideals for which Harding exists.

It attempts to serve as a forum for student perspectives, welcoming letters to the editor which adhere to ethical and professional standards and are no more than 300 words in length.

Signed columns appearing in the Bison are the views of the writer and may not reflect the official policy of the Harding University administration. Unsigned columns represent the view of the editorial board.

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LETTER POLICY

The Bison welcomes your views on issues of interest to the Harding community.

Letters must be signed, contain a phone number for verification and be no more than 300 words. The Bison reserves the right to edit letters for style, clarity and brevity.

Letters to the editor may be submitted to HU Box 11192.

Local Missions Need Presence

We think we've missed the point. What brought it to our attention are some disconnections we have recently observed. First, there is the disconnect between what we typically do in the name of discipleship and the world's most urgent needs. We usually evangelize, while people are paralyzed with needs in addition to salvation. Second, there is the disparity between our traveling all over the world to "take the Gospel," but apparently not expending as much time and expense to build relationships with the residents right here in White County. And third, we have observed that we tend to be selective in our reading of the Bible. For example, we have heeded the contents of Matthew 28:16-20 (Christ's commission to teach and evangelize the world), while not being nearly as concerned with the contents of Matthew 25:34-40 (his teaching that we are to serve the hungry, the naked, the imprisoned). Whereas the heritages that most of us come from focus primarily on evangelism, some Christian traditions attempt intentionally to address the full range of human needs.

Rather than concentrating primarily on individualistic salvation and eternal reward, we also are called to tend to the well-being of others here and now. Rather than focusing only on the soul, we are instructed to tend

to the physical and economic needs of people. Holistic ministry attends to the here and now as well as the hereafter. Clearly the world faces critical problems including hunger, unemployment, loneliness, lack of purpose, limited education, depression, poverty, and inadequate housing, to name a few. As important as it is, evangelism alone will not solve these problems. Have we been so focused on getting to heaven that we have neglected kingdom responsibilities while here?

Where do we learn of our responsibilities in the "here and now" kingdom?

In Luke 4:14-30, Jesus enters the synagogue in his hometown of Nazareth, claims to be the Messiah and announces his ministry agenda. He quotes the Messianic text of Isaiah 61, proclaiming that he will be about the activities of giving sight to the blind, releasing the captives, and preaching good news to the poor. Immediately after announcing the agenda of his kingdom, he then resets the boundaries of his kingdom by telling two stories about God's concern for the Gentiles. Thus, he broadens their perspective on what the kingdom is — inclusive of social and economic concerns, and who the kingdom is for — inclusive of all, not just Jews.

What would it look like for us to continue the work Jesus initiated?

One could say that Jesus is concerned not only for the lost, but for the least and last as well. What if Jesus was serious when he said, "The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'" (Matthew 25:40)

The question we keep asking ourselves is, "Why aren't we emphasizing this passage as much as we are Jesus' instruction to evangelize? Why aren't we just as concerned about people's quality of life here and now as we are their eternal lives?"

The challenges we face in this area can begin to be addressed with a few questions: (1) In our choices of career and geographical location, how can we maximize our effectiveness in understanding and addressing the world's needs? (2) In addition to our jobs, what other ways can we be engaging people we don't normally come into contact with? (3) In what ways can we plug into the communities of White County while we are here at Harding?

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Purses, Foiled Again



MICHAEL CLAXTON

Guest Space

to ask for directions.

Overwhelmed, I wandered aimlessly for about 10 minutes, surrounded by acres of patent leather. Eventually I saw a sign that said "Coach," which seemed comforting. Seconds after I started browsing, an eager saleswoman descended upon me, carrying a credit application and accompanied by an accountant. At first I didn't know why.

When I said I was looking for a handbag, this helpful professional asked some follow-up questions: "Did I want a shoulder bag? A clutch? A duffel? A carryall? A swingpack? A hobo? A flap bag? A crossbody bag? A Chiara bag? A Pacha Top Zip bag?" I almost answered, "I'd just like a regular purse, please," but I thought better of it and said I was in the market for a clutch, this being a familiar term to a guy.

Here came the options: "Are you looking for a flap clutch? A plated clutch? A metallic clutch? A Bridgit clutch? A satin clutch? A straw clutch? Are you thinking of our Optic line? Blecker? Carly? Heritage? Hamprons? Legacy? Coach Ergo? Do you want the double zip-top closure? Turnlock closure? Chain-link strap?"

I didn't have the heart to tell the lady all this lingo was wasted on me, so with my hands on my hips and sniffing like Barney Fife, I played it cool and said I'd like a pebble-grain leather clutch with a signature denim tote and a side of whipstitched hobo.

Amazingly, they had one in stock.

When the clerk started to ring it up, the horrible truth began to dawn on me. Coach bags are not cheap. In fact, for the price of a Coach bag, I could rent the kind of coach that took Cinderella to the ball, or fly round trip to Zambia in coach, or hire Coach Mike Krzyzewski to help me brush up on my layups. But there was no way I was spending that kind of money on a pocket book. Sheepishly, I asked the woman if she could point me to the Wal-Mart brand.

I had always heard of people being thrown out of department stores, but I didn't think it literally happened. You don't want to mess with the bouncers at Macy's. Fortunately, a woman outside the store had set her Hermès Kelly bag on that ground at just that moment, and it broke my fall. She later sued for damages.

Granted, it is hard for women to surpass men in our ability to blow money on ridiculous things. As long as Home Depot, Bass Pro Shop and Mercedes Benz are still in business, men will always overspend on tools we will not use, "in-our-dreams" sporting equipment and cars that do not impress girls nearly as much as the commercials imply they will. However, if a crocodile Birkin can go for as much as \$65,000, then women may fast catch up to us in the frivolous rush to waste cash. For me, I'll just keep that cash in my patent leather foldover strapless Alfani wallet, complete with a Powertrain clutch.

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Democrats' Fight Against Earmarks Insincere

Breaking news! Democratic presidential nominees Sen. Barack Obama and Sen. Hillary Clinton announced on March 10 they were going to join Republican presidential candidate John McCain in the fight against earmarks. Obama decided he was going to join the fight first, and Clinton announced her support soon after. She probably felt it was a necessary evil in order to stay competitive in the race since Obama is looking to be the probable Democratic presidential nominee.

Could it be just another political stunt in which presidential hopefuls temporarily support issues they have probably never supported and will most likely not support in the future? Only time can tell. However, when one looks at the records of the candidates on this issue, it is not a stretch to imagine this is just the political game being played out before us.

The idea of earmarks, or pork-barrel spending, as they are commonly referred to, may be foreign to most people. There is no consensus definition on the term earmark, but one widely used is by the Congressional Research Service is, "provisions associated with legislation (appropriations or general legislation) that specify certain congressional spending priorities or in revenue bills that apply to a very limited number of individuals or entities." Some examples include the notorious \$233 million bridge-to-nowhere in Alaska and the infamous \$14.6 billion Big Dig in Boston. As you can see, appropriating federal, taxpayer money for these types of projects seems a bit wasteful. One of



CJ Rivenbark

Guest Space

the most notorious "appropriators" in Washington is Sen. Robert C. Byrd of West Virginia. The earmarks he brings back to his state are sarcastically called "Byrd droppings."

Now in terms of how much in earmarks is attributed to the presidential candidates last fiscal year, Clinton, who ranks number 10 out of all 100 U.S. Senators, topped the list with roughly \$342 million in pork-barrel projects for New York. Coming in second was Obama who brought home almost \$100 million dollars in earmarks to Illinois.

McCain came in a very close last place with an eye-piercing zero money spent. No, ladies and gentlemen, I did not forget any numbers or millions to be added to McCain's totals. Because he is a staunch advocate for eliminating wasteful government spending, he is among only six members of the Senate who have not asked for any earmarks.

Even though these numbers seem pretty profound, Obama and Clinton are still fairly young in Senate seniority, and therefore receive less opportunity to earmark appropriations. To put this into perspective, according to a non-partisan budget watchdog site Taxpayers for Common Sense, Congress inserted 12,884 earmarks worth \$18.3 billion into this year's spending

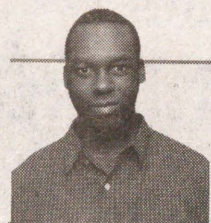
bills. This means that \$18.3 billion of deficit spending is going toward things like Clinton's \$1 million appropriation to fund a New York Woodstock Concert Museum.

Earmarking is a growing concern as the level of earmarking continues to rise along with the budget deficits and national debt. According to another taxpayer watchdog site, Citizen's Against Government Waste, there were 892 pet projects in 1992 totaling \$2.6 billion, which rose to 9,963 projects totaling \$29 billion in 2006. Much of this rise has been under a Republican Congress, which just goes to show that no one party is more innocent than another.

Because of this growing concern about the amount that Congress spends on earmarks, there has been a surge in support for earmark reform. With Obama and Clinton now supporting this movement, along with House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's support of an election-year break from earmarks, it appears that fiscal conservatives might be winning the battle.

Whether this new fiscal policy lasts with Clinton and Obama is left to be seen. However, thanks to McCain's sometimes lonely battle against this form of government waste, we might actually have a much needed break this year. With our national debt at over \$9 trillion and the president's current proposed budget at \$3.1 trillion, we need all the help that we can get.

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JORDAN HARRIS

Guest Space

Fair Trade Biblically Based

In the almost forgotten basement of the Ganus Building, about 20 students meet on Mondays at 8 p.m. to discuss ways Harding can promote fair trade. The began meeting after watching a video showed in Dr. Mark Elrod's political science class. Some students were so struck by this video, they decided to organize instead of only gaping at the injustice that so often goes on in the global market and then going about their day.

Fair trade is a movement that promotes beliefs such as paying workers enough to live on and providing safe working conditions, and teaches smaller organizations in developing nations how to compete on a global scale. It is not a handout from a charity, but rather a belief that justice should be spread and permeate all areas of life, including businesses.

As it turns out, many business around Searcy don't even know what fair trade is, which is a shame. In an international world where cars are imported from Japan,

toys are made in China and work is outsourced to India, it is important to keep up on global trends and events because, if you buy cars, toys or expect to have a job, these trends do very much affect you.

Some of these same places do have fair trade products, and those that do not sell fair trade products often times can order them upon request. And even though products such as jeans and bananas are areas where fair trade can effect lots of change, coffee is the easiest ways for college students to make an impact because we consume so much of it. Here in Searcy, vendors such as The Underground and Java City do carry fair trade blends and Wal-Mart stocks certain fair trade brands. Midnight Oil, unfortunately, does not.

The question is not if fair trade relates to us, but whether justice is something that the scriptures promote. And when you read Micah, Amos, Malachi, prophets who condemn the Israelites for forsaking justice, and when Jesus' first sermon in Luke 4 is on justice, the answer becomes quite clear. Sometimes, however, we can get caught up in the mindset that social justice is for just the U.S., that is, sometimes we ignore injustice on a global level and the cries for peace and justice outside of the U.S.

Let's get rowdy about justice. After all, what can stop a thundering herd of rowdy bison? We won't be alone in this either. In a recent trip to Abilene Christian University, I had the pleasure of meeting Paul Ammons, the school of social work director.

"As a Christian, I have a particular interest in social and economic justice," Ammons said. "Read the Old Testament. From the law forward, there is a lot of emphasis on how the rich should treat the poor, how those of less power should be treated by those who have the power. And they should be treated with and with equality and fairness, rather than exploitation. On into the New Testament ... there are more scriptures about how people of faith should deal with the poor than New Testament baptism."

As we continued to talk, Ammons explained fair trade as a movement that eliminates the middle man, allowing, in some cases, for prices to stay low and competitive. This benefits both producers, because they earn a living wage, and consumers, who get a high quality product for only, as Ammons calculated, about five cents more per cup. "Which," as he put it, "is a small amount to pay when the difference is starvation wages versus a living wage to allow a person to feed and clothe his family and send his children to school," Ammons said.

For more information visit the FAIR TRADE(ERS) group on Facebook, <http://www.acu.edu/academics/cehs/programs/socialwork/about/globalcommunity/index/html> on the web, or come to a meeting.

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THE QUOTE

"Enough with the slaughter. Enough with the violence. Enough with the hatred in Iraq."

— POPE BENEDICT XVI during his Palm Sunday Mass making an appeal for peace in Iraq.

New Seven Deadly Sins Worthy Of Thought

It appears that in the last few weeks, Moses has risen from the grave and returned to Mount Sinai to gather a fresh batch of divine wisdom. What kind of life-changing commands would God give this time, the masses wondered? What profound, esoteric insight would come down from the mountain thousands of years later? And here they are: "Thou shalt not ... sell drugs, mess with DNA or pollute the environment." And so began the world's biggest letdown since "American Gladiators came back on the air."

If you haven't gotten the joke already, I'm referring to the Vatican's recent classification of seven new "deadly sins" (polluting, genetic engineering, being obscenely rich, drug dealing, abortion, pedophilia and causing social injustice), which join the old mainstays of pride, envy, gluttony, lust, anger, greed and sloth. Though many around Harding are predisposed to disregard anything coming out of Rome as devoid of spiritual worth, the new list is certainly thought-provoking and should at least make us re-evaluate our attitudes about right and wrong.

Of course, I'm not suggesting



JASON LOY

Guest Space

"Though many around Harding are predisposed to disregard anything coming out of Rome as devoid of spiritual worth, the new list is certainly thought-provoking and should at least make us re-evaluate our attitudes about right and wrong."

that the list is unassailable; for the record, the ban on genetic engineering seems a bit reactionary, but that's neither here nor there. And there's no need to stir the pot on issues like abortion and pedophilia, which have been debated a million times over and nearly unanimously condemned by the Christian community. The most noteworthy items on the list are those that are not traditionally considered sinful (polluting, being

rich) yet have roots in disregard for fellow human beings.

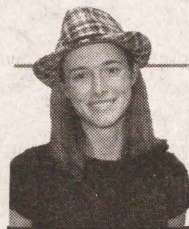
Although I'd like to know what the Vatican means by being "obscenely rich," the prohibition on excessive wealth makes sense. Of course, some of the "obscenely wealthy" Rome condemns are investing their wealth in their own charities or other social programs that in some small way are contributing to greater good, so I'd like to propose a modification to this "deadly sin": Those who do not use at least a significant portion (I'll leave it up to the individual to define "significant") of their excess wealth to aid the less fortunate and/or preserve the environment need to reassess their priorities. The amount of excess resources one has is not the issue here; it's the that one makes with one what has that matters. So, fellow Harding students, even if all you have to give is that one rare homework-void, obligation-free weekend, do not consider yourself off the hook if you could devote at least some time to some cause bigger than yourself.

To me, by far the most-thought provoking item on the list was "causing social injustice." After three days of pondering, I still haven't come to grips with everything this "deadly

sin" involves. Perhaps the manager of a gas station cuts his employees' wages to raise profit margins, leaving one of his cashiers unable to pay rent. Dishonest? No. "That's just how business goes," the standard laissez faire advocate remarks, obviously never having faced a similar situation himself. Yet he would undoubtedly blast a politician for an extra-marital affair though the politician had worked his entire career for better conditions for the disadvantaged. For lack of better words, the pronouncement of this particular "deadly sin" equates morality with justice and encourages us to develop a pragmatic sense of right and wrong in place of randomly vilifying "offenses" based on our preferences or traditions.

In short, we can learn quite a bit from the Vatican's new focus on wanting "every person to stop and think about their actions and how it affects not only their own soul but the community and the world at large," as put by CNN's Vatican spokesperson. It's not like we should need a refresher course on this basic concept, but it sure can't hurt.

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AMANDA PRUITT

The Fish Wrap

Affordable College Education Needed

Welcome to college. Here's your free (fill in the blank). It's not enough to just go to college anymore. No, those simple days are gone when students just paid a modest fee and attended a few classes. In today's world, freshmen are socially required to spend every penny — plus a healthy chunk of their parents' pennies — to decorate their near-microscopic dorms with every imaginable need, including necessities like stereo systems, flat-screen televisions, printers and free-standing refrigerators.

In the last decade, two technological needs have arisen to become the most indispensable of all: the personal computer and the cell phone. After all, students can always cram their leftover broccoli casserole into a suitemate's fridge; they cannot expect the same kindness when the asking to borrow a cell phone when the overwhelming urge strikes for an extended beneath-the-desk text messaging sessions during Western Civilization class.

Colleges understand these needs, which is why some schools have started providing cell phones and laptops for incoming freshman.

In the past years, universities have offered laptops or wireless Internet service throughout campus, but Abilene Christian University became the first university in the country to take the next technological step when it announced in late February that all incoming freshman would receive an iPhone or iPod, the newest iPod offering.

Now, don't misunderstand. ACU's new iPhone offering is not a mere bribe to entice those potential students who are biologically required to check Facebook at a moment's notice. The school plans to use the iPhones so students can receive homework reminders, check account statements and work on in-class assignments.

ACU was no longer alone in the iPhone offerings when Oklahoma Christian University announced a similar move several weeks later, but students at Oklahoma Christian will be getting more than just an iPhone. Incoming freshman at Oklahoma Christian will also be receiving a MacBook, Apple's high-selling laptop.

All this technological change is not a plan to attract students and boost enrollment as ACU has stated, but the idea of a "free" or "discounted" anything will catch the attention of the average 18-year-old high school student looking at colleges. However, what everyone discovers is that college is coming at a very steep price these days, and after four years of spilling colas and showering bits of food all over the place, even the nicest school-issued laptop will look much worse for wear.

What will survive much longer than the crumb-encrusted, half-functioning iPhones and laptops will unfortunately be the college loans that extend long into adulthood.

Truth is, intelligence will only go so far towards many scholarships that prize standardized testing skills over most everything else. For those who make just enough money to not qualify for federal grants but aren't wealthy enough to receive a \$500 weekly allowance from parents, college is quickly pacing itself out of the price range of many would-be students especially with the uncertain future of many private student loan corporations.

Can a college remain "cutting-edge" while being able to cut costs at the same time? At the very least, can any university slow the ballooning education costs while being able to offer the faculty and staff competitive salaries?

New technology is all well and good, but if I want a new laptop, I'll buy one myself. If I absolutely must check the Internet between classes, I can find a lab computer somewhere on campus. The bells and whistles I can do without, unless I want to spend out of my own pocket.

What's needed most are the colleges that can be competitive without adhering too strictly to the idea of "spare no expense". Capable students deserve higher quality education than the offerings of Tiny Town Community College, certainly, but schools must find ways to make reasonably priced education a viable possibility.

Here's a better phrase: Welcome to college. Here's an affordable education.

AMANDA PRUITT serves as the editor in chief for the 2007-08 Bison. She may be contacted at akpruitt@harding.edu

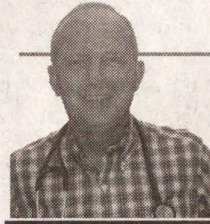
Mono Transmitted By More Than A Kiss

The full moon shimmers on the midnight water.

She blushes as her eyes meet the longing look in the prince's eyes. Out of nowhere (in Disney fashion), fish and flamingos launch into feverish choreography, and in unison the entire cast whispers, "Go on. Kiss the girl."

Just when he decides to take the advice of his aquatic friends, the prince discovers the lady has fallen fast asleep in the bow of the boat, too fatigued to wait any longer. Confused and disappointed, but medically savvy, the astute prince recognizes his pursuit of "The Little Mermaid" has become "Finding Mono."

Infectious mononucleosis is a common cause of fatigue in young adults. Presenting initial symptoms similar to influenza, i.e., headache, fever and muscle aches, mono predictably progresses to include a



MIKE JUSTUS, M.D.

House Call

severely sore throat accompanied by enlarged lymph nodes in the neck, armpits and groin. As the pain and swelling in the throat subside, a prolonged period of fatigue and malaise follows.

More significant complications of mononucleosis involve risks to the liver and spleen. Jaundiced eyes and yellow skin signal a secondary inflammation of the liver, and sudden onset of pain in the left, upper quadrant of the abdomen indicates involvement of the spleen. Trauma to the abdomen in the early weeks of mononucleosis increases the risk for a rupture of the spleen, which

requires an emergency operation for repair.

Caused by the Epstein-Barr virus, mono is transmitted by infected oral secretions. Eating with unwashed utensils or drinking from the same glass used by an infected individual heightens the risk for mono. Traditionally, the spread of mononucleosis has been attributed to kissing, however, the threat of mono has never proved to be a disincentive to a lingering smooch in the college population.

Mononucleosis can be easily diagnosed by examining a sample of blood. A positive test reveals increased numbers of atypical lymphocytes, and recovery can be tracked by successive blood samples for comparison.

Since mononucleosis is a viral infection, antibiotics offer no benefit for treatment. However, a secondary, bacterial infection, like strep

throat, may develop simultaneously while the body's immune system is compromised. In that situation, appropriate antibiotic treatment is warranted.

Under normal circumstances, mononucleosis is a self-limited illness which regresses slowly over a period of weeks to months. The primary treatment for mono should focus on good nutrition, adequate hydration and sufficient rest. Avoiding contact sports, strenuous physical exercise and sleep deprivation in the early stages of mono can reduce the risk for splenic injury and accelerate recovery.

No vaccine is available to prevent infectious mononucleosis. So, if you think it is worth the risk, go on and kiss the girl!

DR. MIKE JUSTUS is a Harding graduate and a family practice doctor in Searcy. He is a frequent contributor to the Bison.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Harding Students Provide Needed Assistance To Tornado Victims

LETTER POLICY

The Bison welcomes your views on issues of interest to the Harding community. Letters to the editor from students, faculty, administrators and the Searcy community are encouraged.

Letters must be signed, contain a phone number for verification. The Bison reserves the right to edit letters for style, clarity and brevity.

Letters to the editor may be submitted to HU Box 11192 or thebison@harding.edu

Words cannot express the horror the people of Clinton, Ark., and her sister communities felt when an F-4 tornado with winds between 200 and 250 miles per hour tore into their midst. As I was going to check on members of our congregation, shortly after the event, I felt I had been gut-punched as I witnessed the utter devastation of the monster winds. Trees as big around as bundles of telephone poles, many of them 100 years old and older, were snapped in half, while others were reduced to splinters. Still other trees, with trunks as big as the base as the family dinner table, were summarily pulled out of the ground as easily as a weed out of a well-tilled garden. Houses and neighborhoods looked as though the world's largest bush hog had been through them.

The drive from the top of the hill on Highway 65 to the bottom, previously one of the most beautiful scenic drives between here and Branson, Mo. mirrored the look and feel of a war zone. When people rose from the wreckage, dazed and with their world spinning, it was overwhelming to decide where to begin.

Thankfully, there were others to help us start. The kindness which has been shown from people all over the state and even from outside of our state has been incredible. The buzz all around town was how wonderful it was to experience the kind of love and kindness that was being shown on all sides. The volunteerism and giving spirit has been stunning. Not knowing how to express gratitude otherwise, signs popped up all around Clinton thanking those who have helped.

Of all of the stories spreading around Clinton (and there are a lot of stories), none have been more dramatic or told more often than the coming of the Harding students. Nobody here is quite sure of the number of students that came, but we heard approximately 850 signed up to come, and more came than had originally signed up. Those from Harding who stood up in our school's auditorium formed an awesome number.

The first thing many of us noticed

was the trailers being pulled behind this motley crew of students. People were so impressed when they found out that these contained not only supplies to aid them in their cleanup work, but also the meals of the students themselves so they would not be any burden to our area!

After being wowed at first, none of us were let down by any of their follow-up. Large groups of students landed in different spots around our town and county, impressing us not only by their numbers, but also by their ability to get the job done with the least amount of oversight necessary. One older man had been working himself to near-exhaustion when he saw the group of 20 or more students land at his place. While thankful, he was apprehensive about having to keep up with them and tell them where to go and what to do. What he found out shortly thereafter was regardless of where he turned, the work was being taken care of. He finally just sat down and watched them get after it, getting some much needed relief.

"Those kids were all over that work like a swarm of ants on a sugar cube," he said.

I know of another man who is not easily impressed at all. He is the type most would think of as an unchurched cynic. As we were talking, this man started moving his hands around and quite excitedly talking about those Harding students. He was bragging like a doting grandfather on his grandkids. I was utterly amazed by what I witnessed.

Still another family, the Bittles, were touched in a deeply moving and meaningful way. Kim Bittle emotionally reported that at least 40 students arrived at their home, where she and her family were struggling to clear trees, discard debris and salvage valuables that had been scattered for miles. She explained that her young nephew had passed away only a few months before and the storage building that contained all of his personal belongings and other precious mementos had been completely destroyed. Up to that point, they had

found virtually none of these possessions, having been dealing with other pressing and crucial needs.

Without delay, one group of the workers began helping to clear and restore the land, while the others began searching the ground as far as they could for any of her nephew's cherished memorabilia. After five grueling hours, the students left them with a piece of land significantly cleared and a large box of precious memories in the form of much loved toys, valued pictures, chess pieces and other emblems of their nephew's life. These were powerful reminders that the grieving parents and relatives likely may not have found otherwise. Before leaving, these students encircled the family, sang a beautiful song and prayed to God to comfort this family in this time of loss.

Jesus was on earth to feed the hungry and spiritually nourish the disheartened. These Harding students immeasurably helped the Bittle family during their time of need, allowing Jesus to live through their lives and example.

I know Harding did not do this as a public relations move, yet if Harding had spent more than a million dollars on a well organized campaign it could surely not have equaled the good name brought to God, our local congregations and to the university itself by these tenderly serving students.

Two things I know: the damage of the tornado will last for years, yet, the influence of our wonderful Harding will be here as long. Seeds were planted for the future and the Lord only knows how many will end up with the blessings of salvation because a group of unknown and unexpected young people showed up in our hour of need. I've never been prouder to be an alumnus of Harding. However overpowering the damage of the tornado, it was surely countered by that wonderful Bison stamped.

JOHN FIELDS, a minister at the Clinton Church of Christ. This letter was submitted by executive vice president Jim Carr.

Roberts Contributes Immediately

By CHRISTOPHER O'DELL
student reporter

After jumping to a successful start this season, the Harding baseball team has slowed down as of late, most recently being swept by Southern Arkansas in a three-game series. Through 26 games, the team has a record of 13-13.

The Bisons started the season with seven victories in eight games, including a 4-0 start to the year. Coach Patrick McGaha and his players said they are still optimistic that the season will be a successful one.

"If we can continue to stay positive and battle through the downtime, we can still do a lot of good things this year," McGaha said.

The optimism might start with McGaha, but it definitely doesn't end there. Leaders on the team, such as junior outfielder Aaron Roberts, keep the team focused

and on the right track.

"He's a real good kid to have in the clubhouse," McGaha said. "He's been a leader for this team on and off the field."

Roberts, who transferred from Northeastern Oklahoma A&M last year, has been providing the extra-base hits this season, hitting six home runs in the first half of the season. He has also led the team in hits and RBIs in several key games to give the Bisons the win they needed. Roberts and his teammates said they know it is early in the season and the team can achieve great things.

"I expect us to turn a corner," Roberts said. "We're finally starting to come together as a team and we're playing better baseball now."

According to McGaha, it was vital that Roberts show the kind of leadership he has after 2007 All-Gulf South Conference player, Adam Darby, suffered a season-ending injury early in

the season.

"He had to pick up a lot of slack after the injury to Darby," McGaha said. "Darby is one of those guys that's hard to replace. He does a lot of things for us on the field."

Roberts welcomed the responsibility and was even placed at center field after being a projected right-fielder. He knows what will give the Bisons the best chance to win.

"He handles the adversity of the game well," McGaha said. "He had no problem coming in and getting on the same page with everyone. He was a player that fit in right away and that everyone liked."

Roberts isn't a stranger to winning. He led his team to a conference championship last year at Northeastern Oklahoma A&M College after sharing similar success in high school. At Mannford High School in Oklahoma, he earned all-conference, all-metro

Aaron Roberts Season Stats

Games Played	26
Average	.358
Runs	19
Hits	34
HR	6
RBI	24
At-bats	95

and all-state honors, and said he wants to bring similar success to Harding.

"The season is just getting started," Roberts said.

Roberts and the Bisons continue conference play this weekend against Ouachita Baptist. They will face-off against the Tigers on Friday and Saturday in Arkadelphia.



CRAIG RAINBOLT | The Bison

Junior center fielder Aaron Roberts begins his swing against Missouri S&T on Feb. 10. So far this season, Roberts has launched six home runs and leads the team in almost every offensive category.

Football Team Conducts Mission Trip To New York

By ALEX GROVES
student reporter

Spring break is all about relaxation. It brings thoughts of the warm sun, sandy beaches and tanning oil. It hardly ever makes people think about doing manual labor, but that is exactly what the Harding football team had on their minds during spring break.

When 27 members of the football team traveled to the Timothy Hill Children's Ranch in Riverhead, N.Y., where they spent the week working on a wide array of tasks that ranged from landscaping to greenhouse construction.

As the Timothy Hill Children's Ranch is entering into its 28th year of operation, it is still being run by members of the Hill family. Thaddeus Hill, who is serving as Executive Director, is a graduate of Harding and is also a former member of the football team. It was this connection that helped head football coach Ronnie Huckleba set up his team's spring break trip.

On this trip, Huckleba and his 27 players showed great determi-

nation to by working hard during the day and being spiritual role models to the campers by leading devotionals every night while they were at the ranch. Their list of accomplished tasks include building and installing 1,600 feet of hanging basket irrigation, hooking up water to a new poly house, planting 250 flats, disassembling and reassembling two 90'x30' greenhouses and a host of other chores.

Huckleba recently sent out a letter to all the players and supporters of this trip in which he said, "I sincerely believe that during the 22 years that I have been coaching at Harding, this was one of the most rewarding activities in which I have had the privilege to be involved."

Huckleba said this trip will most likely become an annual trip, and he hopes it will grow in popularity among the other players who weren't able to attend this year. He said he is very appreciative of all those people who supported and encouraged this trip and thanks all the players who went for making this trip

such a memorable time in the football team's history.

The Timothy Hill Children's Ranch was the childhood dream of Timothy Hill. He was the son of Jerry and Fern Hill, who were foster parents to several underprivileged children throughout the years. Timothy saw the pain and misery that these children had to endure and began to dream of a place where children of similar circumstances could go and live and be loved and ride horse as much as they wanted.

Timothy, even though he was only 12 years old, began going through the steps of saving money and contacting real estate agencies. One year later, Timothy was killed after he was involved in a bicycle-truck accident.

Timothy's mother celebrated Timothy's death by writing a book entitled "Graduation to Glory."

This book inspired numerous friends of the family to start a memorial fund for Timothy's dream to become a reality. On Nov. 15, 1980, the Timothy Hill Children's Ranch finally opened its doors to needy children.



CRAIG RAINBOLT | The Bison

Head football coach Ronnie Huckleba barks out orders for his defense during the Nov. 3 game against Arkansas Tech. Huckleba led 27 members of the football team on a spring break campaign to New York.

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CRAIG RAINBOLT | The Bison

Junior pitcher D.A. Kremer delivers a pitch during a Feb. 6 game against Northeastern State. Kremer tossed seven innings of shutout ball with four strikeouts.

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Kirwa Takes Title At National Meet

By CHRISTOPHER O'DELL
student reporter

The Harding track program added to its already impressive season last week in the NCAA II Indoor National Track and Field Championships when freshman Daniel Kirwa won the national title in the mile.

Two other Bison runners earned invitations to the meet in Mankato, Minn., on March 14 and 15.

"We had prepared well under the coaching of Steve Guymon," senior Julius Kosgei said. "We were prepared and were expecting to do good."

Kirwa and seniors Julius Kosgei and Artur Kern competed for Harding. Kirwa, who was named NCAA II South Region Indoor Track Athlete of the Year, ran the mile and 5,000 meters for the Bisons, achieving success in both areas.

Kirwa became Harding's first national indoor title winner in the mile in nearly 40 years, winning by just one one-hundredth of a second. He then competed in the 5,000 two hours later, finishing the event in third place and earning his second All-American honor of the evening. Kirwa ran the mile in 4:12.62 and ran the 5,000 in 14:21:67.

Kosgei also received an All-American honor in the meet, finishing fifth in the 5,000. The

award added to his already impressive career at Harding, giving him 11 All-American honors — including four indoor honors and three honors in the indoor 5,000 — with the possibility of several more to come. Kosgei said the awards mean a lot to him but they primarily serve as "an encouragement to the rest of the team." He also added that they are an "example to those on the team that it is possible to achieve what you aim for."

Kern placed eleventh in the 5,000.

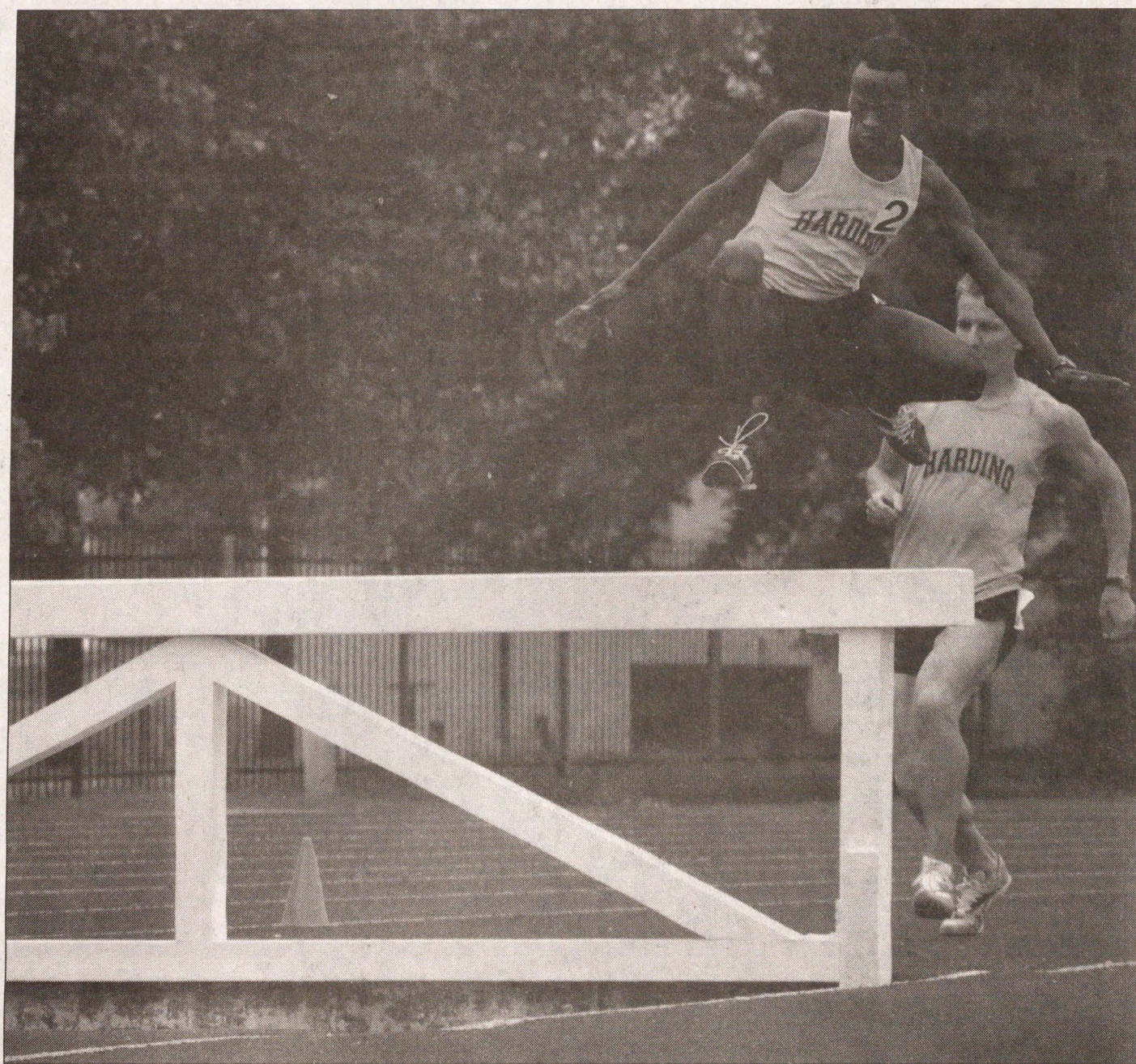
The success that the Bisons have achieved during the indoor season might not even compare to the success the team could achieve in the outdoor meets.

"We have schools calling us now and trying to get our guys to come to their meets," Guymon said. "They want to improve on their times by getting our guys there."

"I'm very pleased with the way we have performed during the Indoor season," Guymon said. "I think we can have an even better outdoor season this year."

Kirwa and Kosgei have the team and their coach optimistic about the upcoming season as each runner tries to achieve the same kind of success that Kirwa did last week and that Kosgei has over his entire career.

"They make an impact on our team by raising the bar a little higher," Guymon said.



CRAIG RAINBOLT | The Bison
Senior Julius Kosgei runs the steeple-chase during a meet in the spring of 2007. Kosgei garnered his 11th All-American honor with a fifth-place finish in the 5,000 during the NCAA II Indoor National Track and Field Championships on March 14.

March Madness Brackets Are Likely Proving Faulty

BRANDON HIGGINS

The Payoff Pitch



March Madness means two things for me: First, I have to listen to Dick Vitale say the same crusty phrases over and over again. Second, I get to fill out a tournament bracket only to rip it to shreds when someone who picks winners based on team colors, nicknames and funny player names beats me in a pool.

I'd really like to write about all my picks for this year's tournament because I think it's very interesting with a lot of interesting match-ups, but deadline restraints won't let me do that. I will, however, share my predictions for the games that will occur today and why I think they will come to fruition. I don't pick based on team colors and other bogus criteria, so I'll probably be wrong. Without further adieu, here are my picks for today's games.

No. 15 American at No. 2 Tennessee: Tennessee will have far too much firepower for American to handle. Chris Lofton, Tyler Smith and company will light up the scoreboard with their fast-paced style of offense. Tennessee will win big. My pick is Tennessee.

No. 10 Davidson at No. 7 Gonzaga: Gonzaga is full of young talent that hasn't experienced the pressure of March Madness. Davidson was in this spot last year, and they have the ability to score a ton of points. Stephen Curry is averaging over 25 points per game, and he'll lead Davidson to an upset in the first round. My pick is Davidson.

No. 10 Saint Mary's at No. 7 Miami: The Hurricanes play fantastic defense, and they have several guys who can shoot the ball well, including Jack McClinton. I see Miami going to the Sweet 16 because of their defense and ability to shoot. My pick is Miami.

No. 12 Western Kentucky at No. 5 Drake: I usually like to pick 12 seeds over five seeds, but Drake is just too talented.

They have balanced scoring with four players averaging double figures, led by Josh Young's 15.8 per game. My pick is Drake.

No. 10 South Alabama at No. 7 Butler: Pardon me, but Butler is sorely underseeded. The Bulldogs have had a fantastic season, yet they continue to get very little respect. I think this will be a huge factor for Butler, and they will play fantastic basketball in the postseason because of the chip they'll have on the shoulder. Butler has tons of veteran guard play, and that translates to wins in March. My pick is Butler.

No. 15 UMBC at No. 2 Georgetown: The Hoyas will prove to be far too much for UMBC to account for. Georgetown is one of the most balanced teams in the tournament, and they very rarely encounter a match-up problem. My pick is Georgetown.

No. 15 Austin Peay at No. 2 Texas: The Longhorns have all the tools to destroy Austin Peay in the first round. D.J. Augustin ignites Texas, and they'll rely on him to carry

them throughout the tournament. My pick is Texas.

No. 13 San Diego at No. 4 Connecticut: Connecticut will show San Diego something they haven't seen all year: several legitimate shot blockers. With five players averaging double figures, look for a balanced attack led by A.J. Price. Connecticut could make some late noise in the tournament. My pick is Connecticut.

No. 16 Mt. Saint Mary's at No. 1 North Carolina: The Mountaineers from Mt. Saint Mary's will overmatch an inferior Tarheels squad in a complete mismatch.

Just kidding. The Tarheels are the No. 1 overall seed, and they'll be looking to prove that they deserved it. They have arguably the best player in the country in Tyler Hansbrough — I blocked his shot in middle school, by the way — and you have a team that will dismantle Mt. Saint Mary's. My pick is Mt. Saint Mary's.

Just kidding again. No. 11 St. Joseph's at No. 6 Oklahoma: Oklahoma has way

too many bouts with offensive anemia to do much damage in the tournament, but their defense is stellar. On the other hand, St. Joe's lights up the scoreboard at will, but they don't play much defense. Look for Oklahoma to have another offensive drought. My pick is St. Joseph's.

No. 14 Siena at No. 4 Vanderbilt: Lots of people are picking Siena for this upset, but I just don't see it happening. Vanderbilt has players like Shan Foster, the likes of which Siena hasn't seen. Vanderbilt is dangerous, folks. My pick is Vanderbilt.

No. 9 Oregon at No. 8 Mississippi State: I like Oregon, but they turn the ball over way too much and don't play good defense. Mississippi State will feature a balanced, versatile attack that will keep the Ducks off balance. My pick is Mississippi.

No. 9 Arkansas at No. 8 Indiana: Indiana getting a No. 8 seed is beyond me. They have one of the nation's best inside-outside combinations with guard Eric Gordon and

forward D.J. White. Indiana goes to the line often, and they shoot free throws exceptionally well. My pick is Indiana.

No. 14 Boise State at No. 3 Louisville: Louisville was one of the hottest teams in the nation before the Big East tournament. They have playmakers all over the court and a guy to fuel the half-court offense in David Padgett. Louisville is extremely dangerous. My pick is Louisville.

No. 12 Villanova at No. 5 Clemson: Given their recent surge in the ACC tournament, I really like Clemson. They are hot, and that is key. My pick is Clemson.

No. 16 Texas-Arlington at No. 1 Memphis: I don't have much to say about this game. Memphis will win in a rout. My pick is Memphis.

With all that said, I'm probably wrong.

BRANDON HIGGINS serves as the sports editor for the 2007-2008 Bison. He may be contacted at bhiggins@harding.edu

Sports In Short

• **Men's Basketball-** The Bisons ended their season on March 15 at the hands of Tampa. Harding fell 86-77 in the first round of the NCAA tournament to wrap up an 18-13 season that included the school's first conference title.

Matt Hall was named Gulf South West Player of the Year for the third time in his career. Hall was also named to the All-South Region squad for the third time in his

career. Hall finished as Harding second all-time leading scorer with 2,227 points.

• **Women's Basketball-** The Lady Bisons finished their season with an 18-10 overall record and an 8-6 conference record.

The Lady Bisons narrowly missed the national tournament after falling to Valdosta State in the first round of the conference tournament.

• **Men's Tennis-** The Bisons started the season 9-0 and no individual has lost a singles match. Also, no doubles team has lost a match.

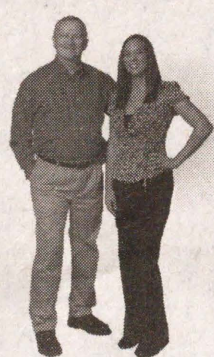
The Bisons are 81-0 in their total matches this season.

• **Women's Tennis-** The Lady Bisons started 9-2 on the season with their only losses coming to Arkansas-Little Rock and Northeastern State.

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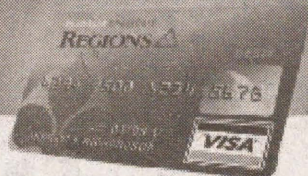
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Harding Basketball Season In Review



CRAIG RAINBOLT | The Bison

Junior guard Steven Barnett drives into the paint against Henderson State's Antoine Vinson on Feb. 23. Barnett had four points and three assists in the Bisons' nationally-televised win.

Bisons And Lady Bisons Play For Postseason Accolades

- The Lady Bisons made it to the conference tournament with an 8-6 league mark.
- The women took on No. 14 Valdosta State in the first round of the tournament, but fell to the Lady Blazers, 65-58.
- Senior guard Kinsey Tucker led the Lady Bisons with 17 points against Valdosta State, ending her career as a Lady Bison.
- Tucker ended her career with 1,032 points, 409 assists, 374 rebounds, 156 3-pointers and 236 free throws.
- The Bisons garnered the No. 1 seed from the West Division for the Gulf South tournament.
- Harding defeated Arkansas Tech 73-51 after the WonderBoys beat the Bisons twice during the regular season.
- Matt Hall recorded 22 points and eight rebounds to lead the Bisons past Arkansas Tech.
- Kevin Brown scored 17 points and hauled in five rebounds to go along with two steals.
- Trent Morgan scored 15 points and knocked down two three pointers to chip in to a balanced Bison attack.
- The Bisons won their semifinal game against Valdosta State, 89-84.
- Hall scored 35 points and hit five 3-pointers to lead the Bisons past the Blazers.
- Steven Barnett had 15 points, six rebounds and seven assists for the Bisons against Valdosta State.
- Harding met Christian Brothers in the finals of the GSC tournament, falling 93-89.
- Brown led Harding with a career-high 33 points, showing the GSC what Harding has in store for the future.
- Harding trailed by as many as 23 points, but cut the deficit to three with a few seconds left.
- Harding got its first bid to the NCAA II Tournament since 2003 and lost to Tampa in the first round, 86-77.
- Hall finished his career with a 27-point performance, giving him 2,227 career points.

Bisons Take National Stage

By BRANDON HIGGINS sports editor

- On Feb. 23, Harding played Henderson State on national television in front of a sold out crowd at the Rhodes Field House.
- As an added incentive, Harding was playing for a potential conference title and national tournament berth.
- Harding entered the game in first place in the Gulf South West, while Henderson State entered without a conference win.
- Harding was looking for their first season sweep of Henderson State since the 2005 season.
- Henderson State led the all-time series 70-30 coming into the game.
- Harding entered the game with a 14-10 overall record.
- Henderson State traveled to Searcy with a 3-21 overall record.
- Harding struggled in the first half, but clung to a 34-29 lead at halftime.
- Freshman Kevin Brown electrified the crowd with an early dunk on his way to six first half points.
- At the break, Matt Hall led the Bisons with nine points on 3-8 shooting.
- Antoine Vinson led all scorers with 13 points in the first half on 5-10 shooting.
- Henderson State's final lead came with 13 minutes left in the first half.
- Harding dominated the second half, leading by as many as 23 points.
- Brown had a breakout game for the Bisons, scoring 14 points on 6-7 shooting.
- Brown also recorded seven rebounds, four steals and two blocks.
- Hall scored 18 points and dished out a season-high five assists.
- Senior center Jesse Bynum scored 11 points, including two 3-pointers.
- The Bisons outscored the Reddies 38-30 in the second half.
- Senior guard Chris Dixon filled the stat sheet with 13 points, seven rebounds and three assists. The Fayetteville, N.C., native hit three of six 3-point attempts.
- Harding won the game 72-59 to complete the season sweep of the Reddies, pushing the Bisons' conference record to 9-3.



AMANDA PRUITT

The OT

AAFL Folds

Watching baseball games at Harding's Jerry Moore Field is an inexpensive affair for the most part. Admission is free, a seat in the grandstands is almost always guaranteed and the restrooms obviously may be used at no cost. Unless the urge to purchase nachos from the concession stand becomes too great, an afternoon at the ballpark is a college student's dream: free entertainment.

A few weeks ago, however, something new was for free. Something free for a limited time only, as it has turned out.

During the lulling innings of a late February doubleheader, everyone in the press box noticed a man shaking hands and passing out all sorts of goodies from a large cardboard box.

We became more interested as he made his way through Alabama-Huntsville's side of the grandstands giving away small red-and-white pompoms, among other small red-and-white knick-knacks. It was odd since the school's colors were blue and white, and people were gladly accepting the freebies just the same.

As it turned out, the man was former Arkansas Razorback running back Chrys Chukwuma. One of his relatives was playing for Alabama-Huntsville, but he was mainly at the game to distribute All American Football League and Team Arkansas gear.

See, Chukwuma had just signed with Team Arkansas and would have played in the inaugural season of the AAFL a month from now.

However, Chukwuma's AAFL career has been put on hold since the league decided to delay its official start until 2009 — if ever. The AAFL did not have enough financial backing before training camp began, so executives decided to wait and see.

Even if the league would be able to take off under normal circumstances, it would be difficult for the AAFL to survive long considering the track record of other spring leagues. The USFL has long been finished, as is NFL Europa, which folded last year.

Remember the XFL, the brainchild of WWE's Vince McMahon? The XFL even included commentary and analysis from former wrestler and governor Jesse Ventura. Certainly, the XFL generated hype and even landed a prime-time television slot at the outset, but it became the greatest failure as the league both started and died during 2001.

When the AAFL announced its plans to begin a new spring professional league, one thing was certain: the league could afford zero mistakes. There was that slim hope the league could survive more than a year. It is all about finding the niche; after all, the Arena Football League now has its own television deal and remains the lone success story of the spring leagues by appealing to the fans of high scoring games and indoor climates.

Unlike the other failed leagues, the AAFL formed its teams with two ideas in mind: teams were based on strong collegiate fan bases already in existence, and all players had to own a four-year college degree. Team Arkansas, for example, is Razorback red-and-white and featured players like Chukwuma and former Arkansas quarterback Clint Stoerner. The league also has teams planned for Alabama, Florida, Michigan, Tennessee and Texas, locations all famed for their football fans.

Still, survival for any new league is slim, and even slimmer when the inaugural season is postponed even before the first kickoff. Everyone wants a piece of the enormous NFL-sized pie, and who can blame anyone for trying? The problem is finding the market; the AAFL had the idea, but couldn't even get in the game to try.

The AAFL is probably over, and all I got was a stupid koozie.

AMANDA PRUITT serves as the editor in chief for the 2007-2008 Bison. She may be contacted at akpruitt@harding.edu



CRAIG RAINBOLT | The Bison

Senior guard Kinsey Tucker drives past a Delta State defender during their Feb. 14 game. Tucker scored 10 points, but the Lady Bisons fell just short to the No. 1 Lady Statesmen.

Matt Hall's Jersey Retired

Matt Hall's Career Statistics

Category	Total	HU Ranking
Points	2,227	2
Rebounds	652	11
3-pointers	143	6

- On Feb. 28, Matt Hall's No. 30 jersey was retired, making him only the second Bison to be honored in such a way.
- Hall's honor came after he scored 27 points to lead Harding to a victory over Southern Arkansas, which clinched the Bisons a share of the Gulf South Conference title.
- After the seniors were honored for their contributions to Harding basketball, Hall fell to his knees when he realized that his jersey was going to hang alongside Butch Gardner's No. 20 jersey in the lobby of the Rhodes Field House.
- Hall was a three-time GSC West Player of the Year.
- As a freshman, Hall was named as the GSC West Freshman of the Year after averaging over 13 points per game.
- Hall was a three-time All-South Region honoree.
- Hall garnered 3rd team All-American honors after the 2007 season by Basketball Times.
- Hall earned preseason All-American honors for the 2007-2008 season.
- Hall had five 30-point games during his senior season on his way to scoring 20.7 points per game on the year.
- Hall is Harding's career leader in free throws made with 634. He is also the GSC's all-time leader in free throws.
- Hall is second on Harding's all-time scoring list.
- After Hall finishes school, he plans to pursue basketball, possibly in Europe, to maybe get a shot at the NBA.



JEFF MONTGOMERY | Public Relations

Senior forward Matt Hall stands with Greg Harnden (left) and Butch Gardner (right) as he holds up his No. 30 jersey on Feb. 28. Hall had his jersey retired after the Bisons' 73-70 win over Southern Arkansas.

SPRING SING 2008

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The Finale



ALYSSA MORAN | The Bison
Performers return onstage for the Spring Sing finale, which features the hosts, hostesses, ensemble and some club members.

Spring Sing Remains A Family Project

By BETHANY LOFTIS
student reporter

Spring Sing is a time that clubs come together and work as a team to put on their shows; but it is really all about family — especially one family in particular — that comes together to make the show possible every year.

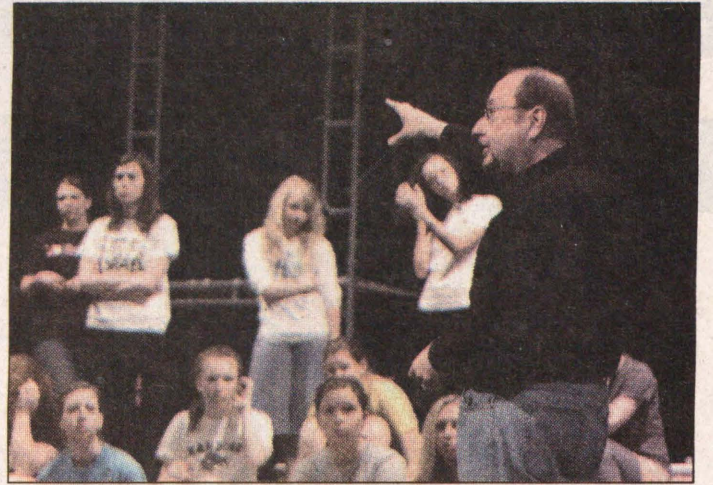
The Frye family has been working together on Spring Sing for many years. Dottie Frye has been working as the choreographer and Director of Spring Sing Hosts and Hostesses and Ensemble since 1992. Dr. Steve Frye has been working as the Director of Spring Sing since 1995.

Working on any project can be tough, but working with family can sometimes be even tougher. It takes a lot of patience to work with family on a project that begins again as soon as it ends. However, the Fryes seem to have figured out how to balance it all over the past few years.

"To be honest, we are a case of similars attract," Steve Frye said. "We share so many interests in common that it has always been a natural fit for us to work on creative projects together."

The Fryes have been working together since they were in the theatre department at

see FRYES page 3a



TAYLOR DURHAM | The Bison
Dr. Steve Frye, who teaches in the communication department, gives instructions during a Spring Sing club rehearsal. Frye has been the Director of Spring Sing for the last 14 years.

How 'Unfinished' Becomes Complete

Behind Curtains, Students Build Growing Set Throughout Show

By ZACH WELCH
student reporter

While many people don't stop and think about it, the set for Spring Sing is one of the most important pieces of the entire production. Not only does it frame, accent and set the mood, it also supports every club that participates in the event. Yet with less than one week until the first Spring Sing show, the set isn't even close to finished.

Don't worry, though. That's the plan.

Spring Sing scene designer and technical director Adam Sullivan said this year's set is going to be very different from past shows. Sullivan said they have never done anything quite like this in the five years he has directed the set.

"It all started out as a joke," Sullivan said. "This is the earliest we have ever done the show, we were unsure of how we were going to get it all done in time."

This year's theme was titled "Unfinished," so why finish the set? While that isn't exactly what Sullivan is planning, the audience may harbor some doubts at first.

When Spring Sing shows begin, the audience will find the set is noticeably incomplete. As

the show progresses, so will the set. Sullivan and his crew will be working hard to build the set in-between each act. By the time Spring Sing ends, the set will be complete. While Sullivan will have only a little more than half of his 17-member crew because some of them are participating in club shows, he said he's confident the set up will run smoothly.

Sullivan said some students on the crew can work up to 20 hours and get paid through Harding's work study program. The set construction staff has been working every afternoon almost the entire semester and Friday afternoon was no exception.

Jordan Rousseau, a junior from Tyler, Texas, has worked on the set the last three years but said the construction is not nearly as easy as it may look.

"It can be backbreaking at times," Rousseau said. "Today we've been chipping concrete off scaffolding."

Despite all the hard work, Rousseau said he really enjoys building the set.

"Since I'm a theater major, I do a lot of this kind of work in class," Rousseau said. "Working out here, I get more of a professional feel and get the opportunity

see STAGE page 3a



TAYLOR DURHAM | The Bison
A member of Ju Go Ju performs during the show "The Night Before Christmas" during the first act of the Spring Sing dress rehearsal Tuesday. As in recent years, Ju Go Ju teamed up with Ko Jo Kai for the show.

Art Sale Switches Sidewalks

By JARED ABELSON
student reporter

While it may seem like singing is the main focus on Harding's campus during Spring Sing weekend, this is not always the case. Aside from the performances onstage, those visiting campus for Spring Sing festivities will have the opportunity to purchase art. Harding's chapter of Kappa Pi International Honorary Art Fraternity will be hosting their third-annual sidewalk art sale all day Saturday on campus at a new location this year, next to Midnight Oil on Race Street.

Though Kappa Pi hosts the art sale, all students have the opportunity to sell original works. Items on sale this year range from paintings and photographs to greeting cards and quilts. Through the sale, the art department hopes to set up a scholarship fund for a senior art major.

"We take 20 percent of the students' profits because we are headed for a scholarship to give to a worthy senior who has never had scholarship money, because sometimes they are really broke at that point in their career," said Beverly Austin, an assistant professor of art.

see ART page 3a

Jazz Hands



ALYSSA MORAN | The Bison
Students in Chi Omega Pi and Delta Gamma Rho finish their performance on Monday's Jersey Night.

Harding Jazz Band Undaunted By Early Spring Sing Schedule

By ALLISON WEAVER
student reporter

Unless a video clip is rolling or people are finding their way from the lobby to their seats before the show, odds are pretty good the Harding University Jazz Band is at work.

The jazz band, conducted by Dr. Warren Casey, remains busy throughout the Spring Sing performances, playing all of the music during the opener, introductions, ensemble and the finale.

Ben Braswell, a senior music

major and the trombone section leader in the jazz band, has participated in Spring Sing all four years he has attended Harding.

He not only participated in the band his freshman year, but he also performed with a club. After one of the trombone players got sick, Casey ask Braswell to sight-read the music and play that night. He continued through the week and hasn't stopped yet.

The jazz band begins preparing for Spring Sing in the fall semester. Instead of selecting songs just for Spring Sing, the band uses songs

they have previously used in concerts or ones it will be using in the spring semester.

"We have fun with [Spring Sing]," Braswell said. "It may be stressful and our grades and social lives may suffer, but it's really worth it. I can remember the Saturday night shows from the past three years, and the feeling I got when we were playing the finale. It's such a rewarding feeling to be part of something so big that pleases thousands of people every year. All in all, it's nearly impossible to

see BAND page 3a

Don't Feed The Plant (Or Actors)

Acclaimed Musical 'Little Shop Of Horrors' Opens Tonight At Ulrey Performing Arts Center

By BLAKE MATHEWS
assistant news editor

You have may have seen the posters pinned up all around campus, you may have heard the phrase "don't feed the plant" passed around like a mysterious caveat, but really, in the middle of Spring Sing, how interested are you in Harding's production of "Little Shop of Horrors"?

A musical tale of love and fortune set in a struggling urban flower shop may sound like a dull concept at best, a Lifetime Original Movie at worst. But "Little Shop of Horrors" has been performed over 2,000 times on stages across the globe, grossed more money than any other off-Broadway production, and even spent time on the big screen as a critically-acclaimed 1986 film.

Want to know what all the fuss is about? You'll just have to see for yourself when "Little Shop of Horrors" makes its Harding debut in the Ulrey Performing Arts Center tonight at 7 p.m. Performances will continue to run until Monday evening at 7 for all those Spring Singers worried about a schedule conflict.

Playing the role of nerdy botanist and protagonist Seymour Krelborn is Harding graduate student Josh Strickland. Ever since seeing the musical live a number of years ago, Strickland has been waiting for the chance to step into Seymour's shoes.

"I prayed to God, 'please let me be a part of this someday,'" said Strickland, who auditioned for the part as soon as it was offered. "It's a dream role for me."

Playing opposite Strickland are senior Jodi Pittard as Audrey and junior Jordan Rousseau as Mr. Mushnik. Interestingly, most of the remaining roles



ALYSSA MORAN | The Bison
Junior Jordan Rousseau, graduate student Josh Strickland and senior Jodi Pittard examine the strange plant in the musical, "Little Shop of Horrors."

are assigned to one actor: junior Jared Cook.

"When [director Robin Miller] posted the cast list, I didn't really understand," said Cook. A veteran of past performances of "Little Shop of Horrors," Cook was already familiar with the different characters that accompany Seymour on his rise out of skid row obscurity. What he didn't realize, however, was how many of them he would be responsible for.

"I didn't think it could be done. I mean, I play a lady," said Cook, referring to one of the

see PLAY page 3a

← WHAT & WHERE →

Visitor's Guide To Spring Sing 2008

EVENT SCHEDULE

Friday

9 a.m. Chapel, Benson Auditorium.

1 p.m. Bison Daze: College 101 for Students – Cone Chapel, 2nd floor Heritage

1 p.m. Bison Daze: College 101 for Parents – Heritage 206

1-4 p.m. Harding History House open

2:00 p.m. Communication Sciences and Disorders Department Reception – Reynolds Building C10

3:00 p.m. Good News Singers concert – C.L. Kay Plaza

7 p.m. "Little Shop of Horrors" – Ulrey Performing Arts Center.

7 p.m. Spring Sing, Benson Auditorium.

7:30 p.m. Bison Daze Worship – Heritage Auditorium

10:00 p.m. A new kind of Theatron show and campus-wide devotional – C.L. Kay Plaza (McInteer Rotunda, in case of inclement weather)

Saturday

9:00 a.m. Belles & Beaux performance, Benson Auditorium.

10:00 a.m. Pied Pipers Show – Reynolds Center

10:00 a.m. Dr. Kenneth Davis Jr. Lily Pool Dedication

10:30 a.m. Bison Daze Worship – Heritage Auditorium

11 a.m. Harding University Chorus Spring Concert – Administration Auditorium

12:00 p.m. Honors Symposium Lunch – For former and prospective Honors Symposium students, Hammon Room (2nd floor Student Center)

1-3 p.m. "Joint Project" Reception – Stevens Art Gallery – The Department of Art and Design presents a showcase of interior design and graphic design majors to design a brand for a luxury hotel.

2 p.m. "Little Shop of Horrors" – Ulrey Performing Arts Center

2 p.m. Spring Sing, Benson Auditorium.

7 p.m. Spring Sing, Benson Auditorium.

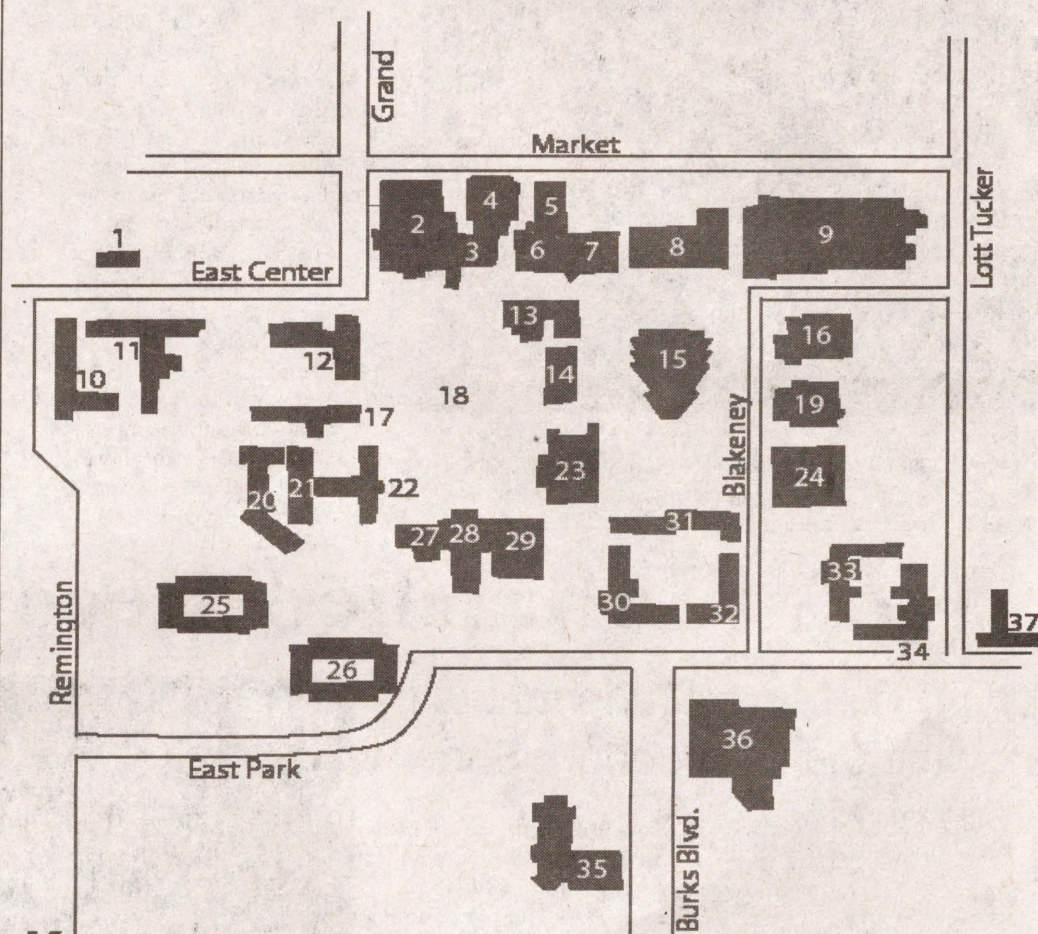
Sunday

8:15 a.m. Worship – Benson Auditorium

2 p.m. "Little Shop of Horrors" – Ulrey Performing Arts Center

8 p.m. "Little Shop of Horrors" – Ulrey Performing Arts Center

Map



Key:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Honors House | 12. Thorton Education Center | 25. Shores Hall |
| 2. Dining Hall | 13. Stevens Art Center | 26. Pryor Hall |
| 3. American Heritage Center | 14. Olen Hendrix | 27. Ganus |
| 4. Heritage Auditorium | 15. Benson | 28. Administration |
| 5. Cyber Cafe | 16. Mabee Business | 29. Ezell |
| 6. Student Center | 17. Kendall Hall | 30. Keller Hall |
| 7. Harding Bookstore | 18. Front Lawn | 31. Graduate Hall |
| 8. McInteer Bible | 19. Claud Rogers Lee | 32. Armstrong Hall |
| 9. Pryor Science Center | 20. Stephens Hall | 33. Allen Hall |
| 10. Searcy Hall | 21. Cathcart Hall | 34. Harbin Hall |
| 11. Sears Hall | 22. Pattie Cobb Hall | 35. Reynolds Center |
| | 23. Brackett Library | 36. Ganus Athletic Center |
| | 24. Rhodes Field House | 37. Cone Hall |

Places to Stay

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| Lambton Inn
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501-268-0654
3204 E. Race Ave | Comfort Suites
501-278-9922
209 S Poplar St |
| Heritage Inn
501-279-4700
On Campus | Best Western
877-574-2464
107 N. Rand St | Days Inn Beebe
501-882-2008
100 Tammy Lane |
| Royal Inn
501-268-3511
2203 E Race Ave | Super 8
501-268-8988
1200 Truman Baker Dr | Regency Inn
501-724-3268
3415 Highway 367 N |
| Budget Inn
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501-268-9900
3211 E Race Ave | Economy Inn
501-882-5421
2003 N Dewitt |
| Days Inn
501-268-6171
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800-345-8082
501 Willow St. | Budget Inn
501-724-3204
3505 Highway 367 N |

Restaurants

- | | | | | | |
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Mazzio's Pizza
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268-9888 | Pizza Hut
2841 E. Race Ave.
268-4277
Pizza Inn
2600 E. Race Ave.
268-4107
Pizza Pro
1211 E. Beebe
Capps Expy
268-9000
Steakhouses
Chili's
3705 E. Race Ave. | Colton's Steakhouse
E. Race Ave.
Doc's Grill
1301 Beebe Capps
Expy.
Ryan's Steakhouse
3608 E. Race Ave.
Western Sizzlin
Steakhouse
3210 E. Race Ave.
Mexican
Casa Brava | 1801 E. Beebe
Capps Expy
Los Montano
3109 E. Race Ave.
Mi Pueblito
1512 E. Race Ave.
Mi Ranchito
301 E. Race Ave.
Breakfast
Bobby's
110 W. Race Ave.
IHOP | 3513 E. Race Ave.
Main Street Cafe
1511 W. Pleasure
Waffle House
3305 E. Race Ave.
Barbecue
Barb's Bar-B-Q
905 W. Pleasure
Grandpa's
1016 S. Main St.
Rib Crib | 3204 E. Race Ave.
General
The Cookie Basket
106 E. Market St.
Frozen Delite
2030 S. Benton
Huckleberry's
2613 E. Line Road
Lenny's Sub Shop
2414 E. Race Ave.
Mr. Catfish
904 W. Pleasure |
|---|--|---|---|---|---|

Elaborate Show Costumes Enhance Each Social Club's Performance

By FARRON MARTIN
student reporter

When people think of Spring Sing, the first thing that tends to pop up in their minds is the groups of people who wear certain costumes.

Spring Sing costumes are some of the most prominent things about each individual show. The costumes have to reflect what the show is about; they have to be fun, colorful and distinguishable, but most importantly, memorable.

As people gather to talk about the shows, most of the time they do not remember the names or themes of each club. They identify each segment by what performers wear. So, what goes into making these costumes?

First, the costumes must reflect the show's theme. The directors must decide what era the theme is

in, the place it is set and how they want their characters perceived.

After the theme has been chosen and all the details ironed out, the next step is deciding on the materials and budget.

"We pick materials as soon as possible, because living in such a small town, most everything has to be shipped to us, which may take a while," senior Kara Galloway, Spring Sing director for Chi Kappa Rho, said. "Each club has a budget. We decide what we want and what we need and purchase things accordingly. We keep our mind on what the character of our show would wear."

Once the theme, budget and materials are decided on, the challenge really begins. How does someone make enough costumes for 35 to 100 performers to wear?

The answer varies for each

group. Some groups get help from mothers, aunts or sisters; some groups hire a seamstress; some groups just do it the old-fashioned way: themselves. Most groups, however, will admit to using a few pre-made items.

"This year we used T-shirts, jeans and Keds and modified them ourselves. We didn't have anything to sew," Galloway said.

Time is another issue with the making of the costumes. With students busy with practice and class, along with various other activities, time can become an issue. Clubs utilize different solutions to get the costumes made. Some clubs host mass lock-ins, while in others, only the directors are really involved with the costume-making. Some groups have extra practices and some groups just lengthen a couple of their practices.

"We make time," Galloway

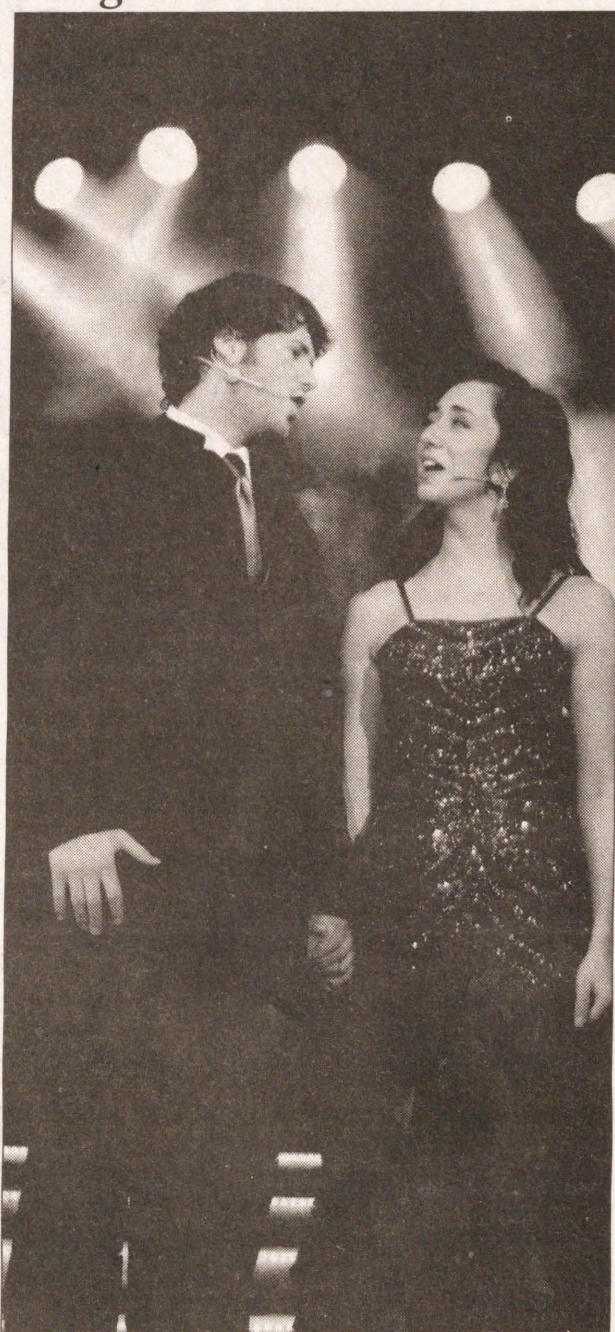
said. "It is so hard to get everyone together and have a paint party because of scheduling conflicts, but we manage. This year we bribed them with pizza and 98 percent of our show was there for our paint party."

Finally, after all the planning and budgeting and scheduling is completed, it all boils down to one thing: how much time is devoted to costume-making?

"More than you would expect," Galloway said. "It is not a sit down and get it all done at once thing for us this year. If I had to guess, I would say between 2 to 4 hours, depending on the person."

In the end, all the time and money put into making the costumes doesn't really matter. All that matters is that the costumes reflect the show, are fun and, most importantly, Spring Sing-worthy.

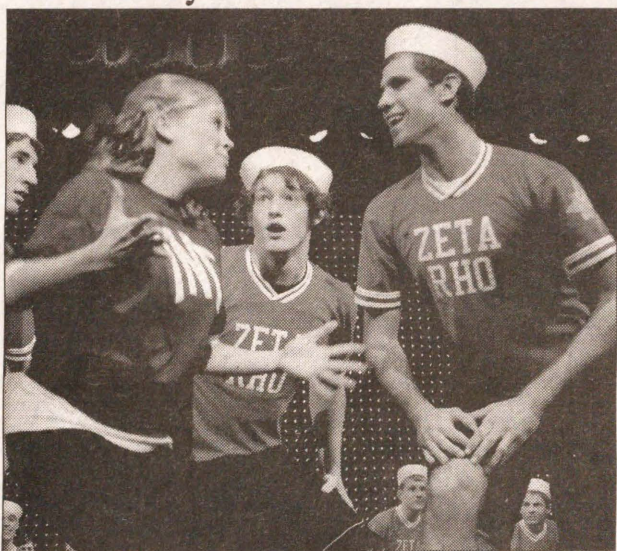
Songsters



TAYLOR DURHAM | The Bison

Spring Sing host David Walton and hostess Jill Shackelford hone their singing performance during Tuesday's dress rehearsal.

Sail Away



ALYSSA MORAN | The Bison

Members of Zeta Rho and TNT perform in the show "When Over There Was Over." On jersey night, Zeta Rho and TNT members trade jerseys.

PLAY: 'Little Shop' Thrills

CONTINUED from 1b

I play a lady," said Cook, referring to one of the many roles, both major and minor, that he adopts throughout the performance. But with countless hours of practice and a good number of wigs, Cook has learned to slip in and out of personas as one slips out of an old coat. Or a dress. Or a dentist's uniform. You get the picture.

All of these characters weave a tale of morality that has roots reaching far deeper than the book by Howard Ashman. Though "Little Shop of Horrors" is based loosely off a 1960 low-budget comedy of the same name, its basic premise echoes back to Johann Wolfgang von Goethe's classic play "Faust," in which a man sells his soul to the Devil in exchange for worldly happiness.

However, "Little Shop of Horrors" distances itself from the

tragic tones of Goethe. Director and Harding theater professor Robin Miller pitches the musical as "a very fun, upbeat show that is very unique and audience-friendly."

"We use the show to teach the people involved," said Miller, speaking about both the cast and the audience. As for the moral of the story, Miller would only say that "selfish behavior geared towards short term gain will come back to bite you in the end." He ended the sentence with a grin and a wink.

Tickets for the show are \$10 and can be purchased at the door or at the ticket office in the Benson Auditorium. On Sunday and Monday, admission is free with The Pass. All the details can be found on the "Little Shop of Horrors" Facebook event page.

And remember, don't feed the plant.

BAND: Performers' Practice Reaps Quality Performance

CONTINUED from 1b

Although there are always negatives, the positives outweigh them. Braswell said his favorite aspect of the show is being part of something so large and bigger than himself. Seeing everyone come together for Spring Sing shows there is a unity amongst the Harding family.

"No matter who the winner is, by the end of the performances, everyone feels a part of something: part of Spring Sing that will not be forgotten," Braswell said.

Braswell said his least favorite part of Spring Sing is the practices held between 7 and 11 p.m. Although they are a vital part of preparing for Spring Sing, while practices are going on, Braswell said he can only think of the homework he needs to be doing or the sleep he could be getting.

Since Easter is early this year, causing Spring Sing to be earlier, many said they feel it has been more difficult to prepare for this year's show, but Braswell said he really hasn't been able to tell a difference in the earliness of the schedule this year, as far as it being harder to prepare.

"The jazz band only has two hours of rehearsal during the week on a normal basis, and so out of necessity we are one of the most 'professional' groups on campus," Braswell said. This is nothing we can't handle. We'll be ready, and we'll blow everyone right out of their seats."

"No matter who the winner is, by the end of the performances, everyone feels a part of something: part of Spring Sing that will not be forgotten."

Ben Braswell
senior

Anyone who has been to Spring Sing has probably noticed the change in the appearance of the jazz band during the finale on Saturday night. Usually they are slick-haired, tuxedo-wearing performers.

On the last night, it is slightly different from any other performance. Braswell wasn't sure how this tradition began, but during intermission on the last night, each member of the band changes costumes into something someone wore from a previous club show.

"One year I had a cowboy hat that was literally about 10 times larger than a normal hat, plus a super-hero vest and pilot goggles," Braswell said.

Although the jazz band works very hard to make Spring Sing what it is, sometimes they let loose.

A week before the performances begin, Braswell said they like to order pizza and eat it during the club shows. For all their hard work, that is the least they deserve.

FRYES: Couple Values Work, Relaxation Amid Spring Sing

CONTINUED from 1b

Freed-Hardeman University and later attended graduate school together in Memphis, Tenn. At Ohio Valley, they made up the Department of Communication, so they produced the theatre and musical review together. Now at Harding, the two are doing the same thing only on a much larger scale.

Spring Sing is basically a year long project, but the few months preceding it can be extremely difficult.

"We often call Spring Sing 'The Beast' since it has a way of devouring you if you are not careful," Steve Frye said.

The Frye family tries to devote as much time to family time as they possibly can, scheduling production work in the fall so that they can have more open evenings during the spring semester. In the months leading up to Spring Sing, Frye and his wife try to stagger their schedules so they can be with their children as much as possible. They will usually try to run away for one weekend during the spring to have some family time and relax.

"Perspective and priorities are particularly important," Steve Frye said.

Steve Frye said he loves

working with his family on this project. His son, Andy, is in the ensemble this year, and Steve Frye has really enjoyed watching him be a part of this. The younger son, Matthew a sixth grader at Harding Academy, is a very big supporter of the rest of his family.

"Spring Sing is a creative and logistic nightmare on some days," Steve Frye said. "On other days it is a pressure cooker to maintain balance and positive public relations with students, alumni, community, church, etc. But on most days, it is simply a microcosm of everyday life — a large project that you work on with others to achieve what you hope will be a beautiful result."

Through all the stresses that come from directing Spring Sing, the Fries seem to have figured out how to balance everything from children to choreography to confetti.

"Every year is fun because every year is unique," Steve Frye said. "I love Saturday nights and hundreds performing for thousands in the Finale each year. Drumlines, pyrotechnics, surprises, megamixes, and of course, confetti-lots of confetti. I like confetti. I really like it when a piece floats down from the ceiling during chapel several months later. That's good."

STAGE: Crew Finds Pleasure

CONTINUED from 1b

to advance my skills. Plus it's just as much a social gathering and we have a lot of fun. On top of that, I get paid."

Rousseau and his fellow students couldn't wait to see what the set would look like by the time rehearsals started earlier in the week.

"It's a job where you know you've done well," Rousseau said. "You get to see this giant set you've been working on all semester. It feels pretty good."

"We're feeling pretty good right now, but it's always pretty fulfilling because it never fails. Seeing what we can do together is a pretty incredible experience."

ART: Sale Enriches Weekend

CONTINUED from 1b

Austin said an art sale is a great opportunity for both those visiting Harding's campus and members of the Searcy community.

"Everyone can obtain good artwork at a reasonable price at a sale like this," Austin said. "Children get to see artists and their works on display, and amateur artists can come and get advice and tips on making art."

Lindsay Richardson, president of Harding's chapter of Kappa Pi, echoed Austin's words.

"An art sale enriches the lives of those in a small community who otherwise don't have a lot of art opportunities," Richardson said. "It connects artists to the community, and people love to see artwork made by talented students and get drawn in whether they consider themselves art lovers or not."

Even though Harding has had a chapter of Kappa Pi since 1967, Austin has only sponsored the honors society for two years. Students must have a 3.5 grade point average in their art classes and a 3.0 average in the rest of their academics to become eligible for membership in Kappa Pi. Austin said Kappa Pi's largest membership has consisted of 12 members, but usually more students and faculty participate in the annual art sale.

"We have had a little bit of trouble convincing students to understand that this is something worth doing," Austin said. "By hosting this art sale, our goal is to help students realize that there is an art market out there and how to move towards that market."

"[The art sale] connects artists to the community, and people love to see artwork made by talented students and get drawn in whether they consider themselves art lovers or not."

Beverly Austin
art professor

More students are slowly becoming more involved with the sale. Anna Cline, a junior graphic design major from Tampa, Fla., is not currently a member of Kappa Pi but plans on selling art for the first time in the sale. Cline is also helping design posters and logos for the society.

"Kappa Pi is a great opportunity to promote art, and it is particularly interesting because the work being sold is the work of my peers," Cline said.

Eventually, Kappa Pi hopes to host their art sale during a different weekend than Spring Sing, but for the time being has settled with moving to a different location than usual. In the past, the sale has been held in the art building and in front of the Heritage Auditorium. This year's sale will be held on Race Street in order to accommodate both the Spring Sing audience and the Searcy community.

"We would like clients and visitors to have more time to look with no other activities to interfere," Austin said.

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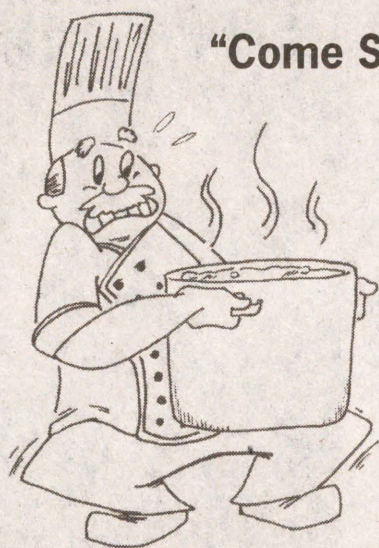
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Program For Act 1



"Come So Far" Hosts, Hostess and Ensemble

"You've Been Served"

GATA, OEGE and Friends

"That's All" Logan McClain

"When 'Over There' Was Over"

TNT, Zeta Rho and Friends

Jazz Band Selection

"Weird Science"

Chi Sigma Alpha, Regina and Friends



"Gimme, Gimme" Haley Jane Witt and Ensemble

"The Night Before Christmas"

Ju Go Ju, Ko Jo Kai and Friends

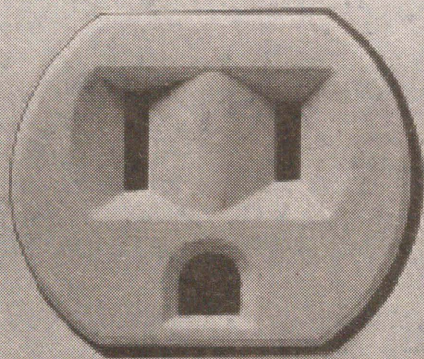


"The Song That Goes Like This" Hosts and Hostesses

art illustrations by ALEX BLAIR



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Program For Act 2

"After Today" Hosts, Hostess and Ensemble



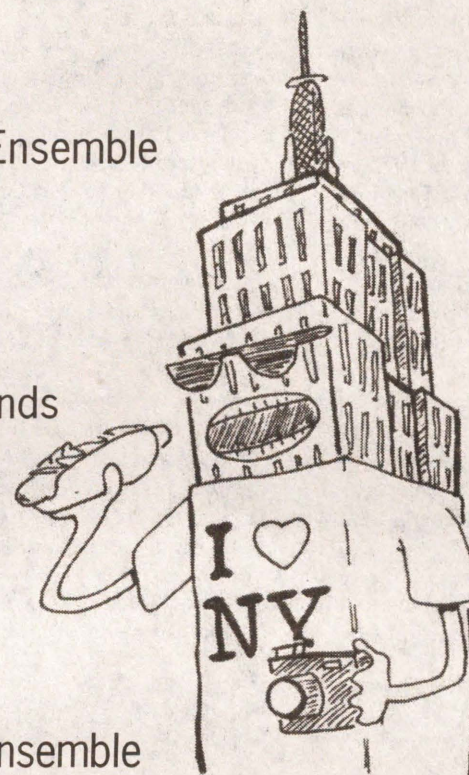
"Can You Hear Me Now?"

Chi Omega Pi, Delta Gamma Rho and Friends

"Machine" David Walton and Ensemble

"New York Minute"

Gamma Sigma Pi, Iota Chi, Pi Theta Phi and Friends



"I Know Where I've Been" Jillian Shackelford and Ensemble



"Gotta Thrive Not Just Survive"

Chi Kappa Rho, King's Men, Shantih and Friends

Jazz Band Selection

"United We Stand" Hosts, Hostesses and Ensemble

Finale

art illustrations by ALEX BLAIR

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Judy Hoggard

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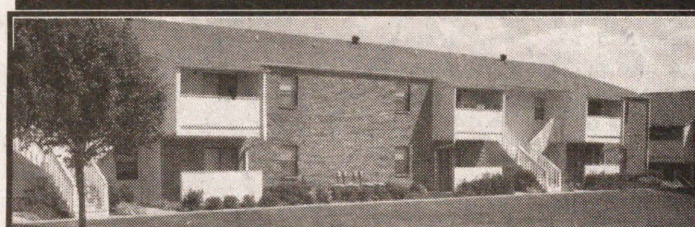
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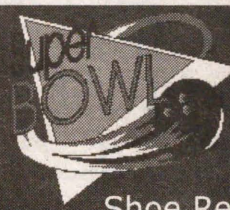
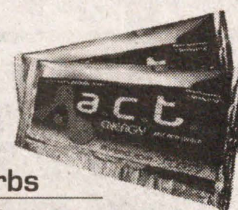
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Filipino Eatery Brings A Taste Of Asia To Searcy

By BEN GARNER
student reporter

Searcy is lucky to play host to Letty's Philippino Restaurant. With healthy dishes that boast phenomenal flavor, Letty's adds a unique ethnic flare to Searcy. The best place to find an authentic ethnic restaurant like Letty's is in a large city, and even in large cities you would be hard-pressed to find a cook that possesses the knowledge and skill that Letty displays. If I wanted to search for a comparable chef, I would start in upscale gourmet restaurants.

Letty was born in Bunga, Philippines, and moved to the United States in 1975 and Arkansas in 1998. Despite leaving her home, Letty retains her Philippino heritage. One has to only step into her restaurant to realize that she brought much of her culture to the United States, not the least of which is the food. But Letty also remembers her family, and she sends money to support her parents and 11 nieces and nephews back home in the Philippines.

A self-taught cook, Letty offers a host of traditional Philippino dishes in addition to

other favorites. Dishes like the ginataan are specifically native to Letty's Philippino province, Bicol. Bicol-style cooking is known for its coconut milk-based sauces, of which Letty offers several. Other dishes include the Polynesian delight, a sweet and tangy dish served with pineapples, peppers, onions and a choice of meat.

Letty also cooks favorites such as fried rice, and takes them to new heights of freshness and flavor. Pancit is a thin rice noodle with an addictive taste and texture. For pork lovers, the fritong baboy is pork cooked in a sweet dark broth sauce that is similar to a barbeque flavor. Saying a barbeque flavor, however, doesn't adequately represent its depth of flavor.

Letty's curry, made with coconut milk, bay leaves, dried star of anise and Letty's home-made curry powder, displays her genius as a chef. She grinds her own curry powder from spices she imports from India, Malaysia and other East Asian countries. Despite my having eaten curry dishes at other Thai and Indian restaurants, I still find that Letty's remains uniquely brilliant. Letty will prepare it as spicy or mild as

you prefer, but however spicy you order it, the layers of flavor are seemingly endless.

As with all her dishes, Letty cooks her vegetables to be fresh and crisp, never limp.

"It is important to keep them as fresh and as nutritious as possible without over-cooking," Letty said.

Timing plays a critical role in Letty's philosophy. If food doesn't meet her satisfaction, she throws it away.

"When I made a smoothie the other day, I didn't like the way the apple looked," Letty said. "It wasn't fresh, so I threw it away."

Instances like this show Letty's dedication to quality food. John, her husband, added, "Letty won't allow any food out of the kitchen that she wouldn't eat herself."

Letty's is considered a slow-food restaurant. Letty prepares all the food fresh when you order it. For those looking for a 5-minute sit-down meal, Searcy offers a plethora of fast-food joints. But for those who want a healthy and delicious meal, take the time to sit and enjoy Letty's best. For those with no time at lunch, give Letty a call at (501) 268-1288 and enjoy take-out.



BEN GARNER | The Bison

Letty Ralston stands outside her restaurant located on Race Street on Wednesday, Feb. 27. Ralston has lived in Arkansas for ten years.

For a meal, I would recommend beginning with some Filipino egg rolls known as lumpia. These freshly made egg rolls are served with a sweet chili dipping sauce. For the main course, the adventurous eater should try the curry or the adobado pork. For the more faint of heart and those who simply

love it, try Letty's fried rice. The house tea, a blend of jasmine, cut-black and orange pekoe, is excellent. I drink it hot with an infusion of fresh ginger. After one of Letty's generous portions of food, try one of her fresh fruit smoothies or some fried banana fritters for desert.

Nearly all of Letty's dishes

are under \$10. With food that displays the depth of flavor that Letty's does, a meal this good under \$10 is a steal. At gourmet restaurants, you can easily pay three times this much and not get the quality of food Letty's offers. Harding Students get a 20 percent discount on all meals, making the most expensive single-person meal around \$8. Letty also offers a \$75 meal card good for 10 meals. Letty's is located at 701 E. Race across the street from the College Church of Christ. On Friday and Saturday nights you would do well to have a reservation. A buffet is offered Sunday from 11 to 2 p.m.

As I finished my interview with Letty, she asked me if I wanted some dinner. I tried to refuse, but my half-hearted attempts didn't fool her. She toiled in the kitchen for awhile and then brought out the Adobado Pork. I took one bite, it rendered me speechless. Having not eaten the Adobado for a while, I had forgotten how intense its flavor can be. Letty is an artist, and food is her artwork. Her restaurant is a gem, and Searcy is blessed to have such a place that diversifies the community and serves superb food.

Tale Of Self-Acceptance

By TRACI MILLIGAN
student reporter

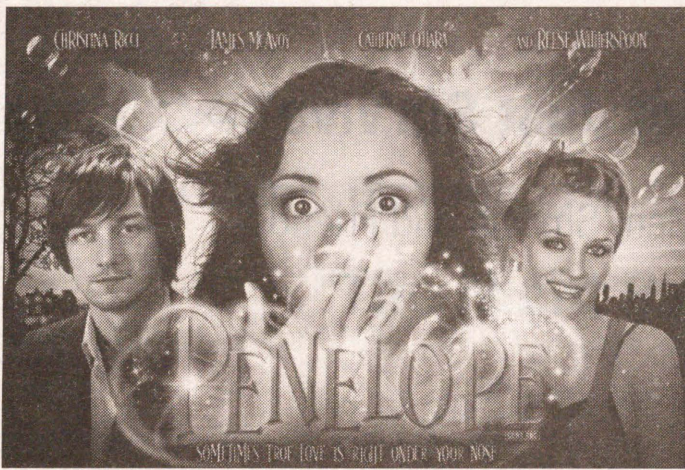
In "Penelope," Penelope Wilhern comes from a long line of very rich and important bluebloods, and she wants what every young girl wants: to fall in love and get married. Being the young and rich socialite she is, her parents expect her to marry a rich blueblood, someone they feel is worthy of being married to their daughter, but Penelope does not have a lot of suitors pursuing her.

There is one big problem: Penelope has been cursed with the nose and ears of a pig since she was born. The curse was placed upon the Wilhern family by a witch long before Penelope was even thought of, and being the first baby girl born to the Wilherns after the curse was placed upon her family, Penelope inherited the piggy features and has been locked away since she was a baby.

Believing the only way to break the curse and make Penelope look like a beautiful young girl is for her to find true love. Penelope's mother, Jessica Wilhern, and a matchmaker, Wanda, seek to find Penelope the perfect husband. Each time Penelope meets a blueblood suitor, they run away from her home, shocked by what they see when Penelope reveals herself to them.

One suitor in particular, Edward Humphrey Vanderman III, flees from the Wilhern mansion and tells everyone he meets Penelope Wilhern is a monster. No one believes him, except for one reporter named Lemon who has also seen Penelope before. Edward and Lemon team up in order to clear their names; Edward wants everyone to know he is not crazy, and Lemon wants to be thought of as a respectable reporter once again.

In order to get the story they want about Penelope, Edward and Lemon have to enlist the help of a possible suitor named Max. Max agrees to go along with their plan of taking a secret camera



into Penelope's home in order to get a picture of her, and he begins courting her. Max is only supposed to pretend to have feelings for Penelope, but he really is falling in love with her. Penelope believes he is not like the other suitors and falls in love with him too. It seems like Penelope has finally found her dream man, until one day when Max tells Penelope he cannot marry her, believing he cannot give her what she wants.

After this devastating incident, Penelope decides to run away and go out on her own, but she hides her piggy features with a scarf in order to escape public ridicule. Along the way she befriends Annie and has the time of her life exploring the city with her.

Eventually, Penelope's identity is publicized, and everyone realizes that the story of the pig-faced girl is actually true. She becomes an instant celebrity, and instead of being repulsed by her appearance, the public adores Penelope's freaky features. In order to redeem himself for publicly calling her a monster, Edward proposes marriage to Penelope, and she agrees to marry him.

Throughout her journey of independence and self-discovery, Penelope realizes she likes herself just the way she is. Breaking the curse no longer becomes her priority, but finding the man who truly loves her for who she is does.

"Penelope" teams up several well-known actors, creating an excellent cast, but one newcomer, James McAvoy (Max), who has

acquired a large fan base since the success of his latest films ("Becoming Jane" and "Atonement") really lights up the screen in this endearing, funny modern-day fairy tale. McAvoy is charming, sweet and good-looking, bringing to life what girls expect when they picture their ideal "Prince Charming."

Christina Ricci plays the role of Penelope, showing an engaging and charismatic side to herself that is not seen in some of her more popular films (such as "Sleepy Hollow" and "Black Snake Moan"). Ricci is lovely and adorable in this movie; it is good to see that she has a lighter side (as far as her movie roles go).

Reese Witherspoon also joins the cast as Penelope's only friend Annie. A seasoned and beloved actress, Witherspoon really adds to the charisma of this cast by bringing her own brand of charm to the movie. Her character is funny and quirky, producing much of the comedic relief in this cheerful movie.

"Penelope" is a feel-good movie that can be appreciated and watched by people of all ages. Appealing to those who love movies like "The Princess Diaries," "Penelope" is a funny and romantic movie that is sure to put a smile on your face, delivering an uplifting message of learning to love and accept yourself for who you are. If you are looking for a clean, light-hearted movie that will raise your spirits, go see "Penelope." You just might find yourself believing in fairy tales again.

Brain Teasers: Puzzles & Games

Sudoku

			8	9				1
	5						3	6
				2				7
	2		3					
		6		9		4		3
	3		6		8	9		
			1				9	
9		2		4				
						6		1

Difficulty 

Cryptique

"TX XTW
ZYT CYQW
PXR DWWS
GTDWBGXB
AGJVXRJ
PXR
ZXTLWTJ."
G equals I

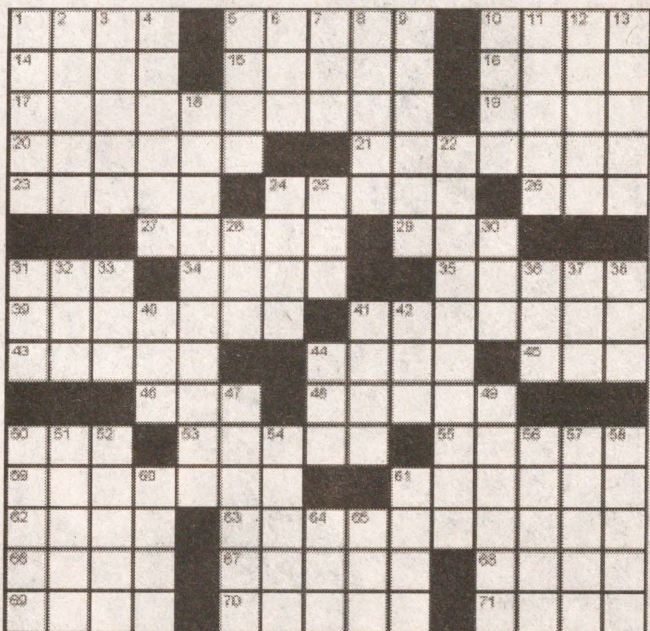
Difficulty 

Answers found on 7b

The Bison Crossword

Across

- 1 Sunblock ingredient
- 5 Office worker
- 10 Circuits
- 14 Eve's son
- 15 Wanderer
- 16 Promised land
- 17 Concern
- 19 Adjutant
- 20 Knitted fabric
- 21 Feminist Duncan
- 23 Beer mug
- 24 Explode
- 26 Turf
- 27 Actress Moorehead
- 29 Consumed
- 31 Emulator
- 34 Provoke
- 35 Actor's line
- 39 Pervert
- 41 Ebbd
- 43 Unnatural
- 44 Way of life
- 45 Admiration
- 46 Singleton
- 48 Terrestrial lizard
- 50 King of Judah
- 53 Social class
- 55 Organic compound
- 59 Air out
- 61 Store sign
- 62 Fem. suffix
- 63 Wolf spiders
- 66 Solar disk
- 67 Spam medium
- 68 Blank
- 69 Variety
- 70 Answer



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- 71 Conclusions
- 12 Shakespeare's Don
- 13 Slamming Sammy
- 18 Harmony
- 22 Bond
- 24 Conveyor
- 25 Consumption
- 28 Pinch
- 30 Compass point
- 31 Hotshot
- 32 Edgar Allen
- 33 Blunder
- 36 Crete mountain
- 37 Condensation
- 38 Dutch commune
- 40 Brazilian port

- 41 Storm
- 42 Gr. letter
- 44 Caress
- 47 Rel. holiday
- 49 Take for granted
- 50 Regions
- 51 Fight
- 52 Subsequently
- 54 Dishonor
- 56 Claw
- 57 Antelope
- 58 Repose
- 60 Hire
- 61 Exclusively
- 64 Knock
- 65 Be in pain

Answers In Next Issue

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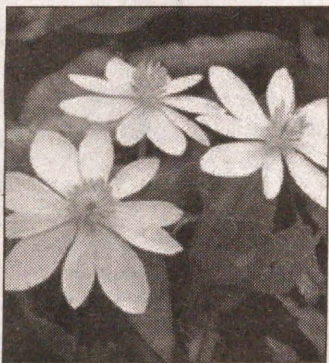
Nature Springs Into Focus

By SAM HOLSCHBACH
news editor

Treading softly in the form of trilling frogs and emerging flowers, spring is fast approaching Arkansas. The natural beauty of spring can be seen on the Harding campus, though here it manifests itself most abundantly through the hoards of students lounging on the front lawn, enjoying the mild weather. If relaxing students were to gaze just for moment at the lawn's vegetation, they would no doubt spy the pale pink Spring Beauty flower in several sizeable patches, a natural harbinger of the season.

When did this miniature emblem of emerging warm temperatures first blossom, one might wonder? Or unfurl its leaves, a seemingly imperceptible phenomenon? The answers to such questions can easily be answered by the attentive observer and over a few years lead to some fascinating results through this enjoyable activity termed "phenology."

Originating from the Greek word phaino, which means "to show or appear," phenology entails the "study of periodic plant and animal life-cycle events that are influenced by climate and seasonal change in the environment," according to the 2007 Wisconsin Wildlife phenology calendar. Thus, the broad activities of nature — encompassing such firsts of the year as the first turkey gobble,



the spring arrival of neotropical birds, the nesting of bluebirds, the first sighting of a Painted Turtle, the blooming of Jack-in-the Pulpit — are recorded by the observer, thus requiring that the observer amble in the outdoors, simply enjoying and observing the flora and fauna.

While enjoyment is certainly a byproduct of recording the time and days of certain natural "firsts" seen, there is so much more. Not only can one discover the optimal viewing times of wildflowers, one can contribute to science via submitting his or her data to organizations that use such information for research purposes.

Project BudBurst, found at http://www.windows.ucar.edu/citizen_science/budburst/, is one such organization in which submitted observations are kept in a personal record for the observer's enjoyment and are accessible to scientists, a win-win combination. The scientists use the records to note climate change across differing regions, comparing recent data

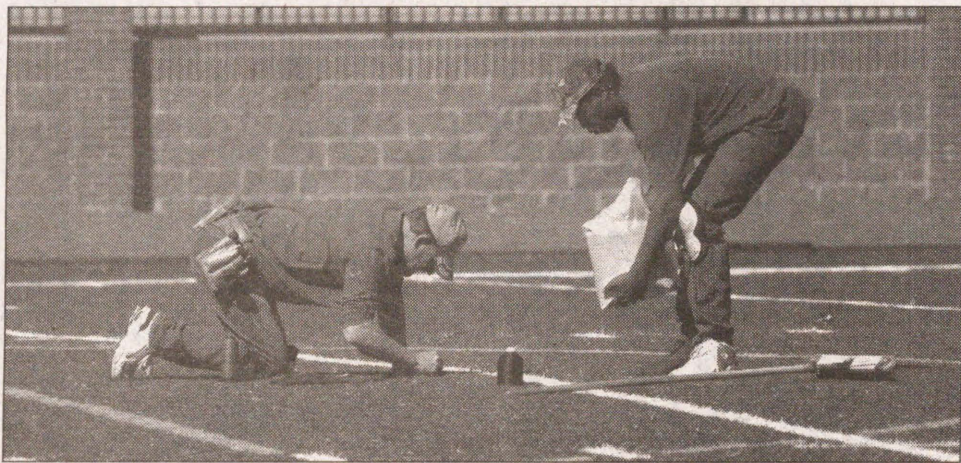
with historical data.

Another website, chimneyswifts.org, allows observers to report their first sightings of Chimney Swifts, boomerang-shaped birds with rapid, rigid flight. In light of climate change induced from the burning of fossil fuels, noting the details in plant and animal trends will become increasingly more valuable, as the natural happenings are sometimes tied directly to specific temperatures.

Often regarded as the "father of wildlife ecology," Aldo Leopold kept detailed records of natural happenings occurring on his family farm in Wisconsin. Placing a high premium on examining nature's cycles, Leopold said, "It is astonishing how few of those who have learned by rote rule or 'nature study' the statics of the land's present inhabitants or condition, ever learn to read the dynamics of its past history and probable future. To see why it is, how it became, and the direction and velocity of its changes—this is the great drama of the land, to which 'educated' people often turn an unseeing eye and deaf ear."

May we, as Harding students attaining a well-rounded education, take the time to tune in to the natural world's heartbeat and keep close tabs on it, knowing the ways of wildlife and plants reflect not only the planet's health, but that of our own.

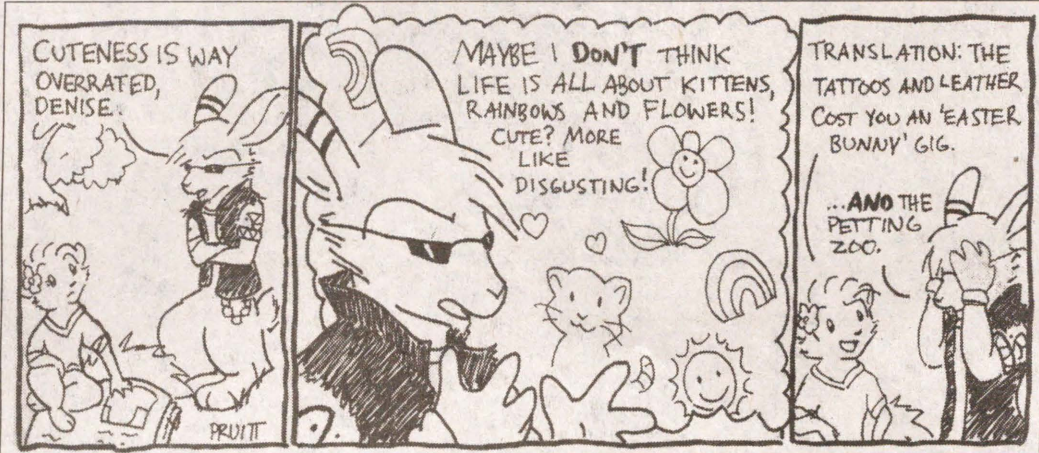
Wear And Tear Calls For Repair Work



Taylor Durham | The Bison
Challenger Industries' Gary Bomber (left) works with Harding's Cory Glenn to repair the football field's damaged turf. The 5x8 piece took about 25 minutes to complete.

Harding Squirrels

By AMANDA PRUITT



Embracing Aloha Spirit

By DANIELLE KANIPE
features editor

Spring break is the hallmark event when it comes to planning a typical college student's spring schedule. It offers an opportunity to be refreshed from the drab, cold days of January and February and gives many students the necessary energy boost to finish the final few months of the semester.

For some students, spring break can mean relaxing or hanging with friends and family. Others see break as a time for vacation and getting the all-important Spring Break glow, signifying you were one of the fortunate souls who was able to soak up some sun. And some students choose to take part in serving on a mission trip. This was the choice Lori Wise, a se-

nior nursing major, made when deciding how to spend her last spring break at Harding.

Wise participated in the invitation-only campaign to Hawaii.

"Since I was asked to go work with the Pearl Harbor Church of Christ, I felt it was God opening a door for me to participate in this wonderful mission trip," Wise said.

The group stayed busy throughout the week by feeding the homeless, passing out tarps on the beach, painting church pews and cleaning. They gave the adults a night off by babysitting for free and spent some time with the youth while hosting a lock-in for area churches. Their Saturday was a free day spent enjoying the island with a sunset devotional to top off the night.

Wise said she believes her

time spent with the Pearl Harbor Church of Christ was a great opportunity to make new friends and serve the Lord.

"The trip was amazing and I loved the people, the environment and the opportunities to do service in God's name," Wise said. "I made some wonderful friendships with my team members and church members in Hawaii, which is inspiring to know that others have a love for God like myself, even far from home."

Wise said she knows the decision to spend her Spring Break on a campaign taught her valuable lessons and will be a lasting memory.

"It has helped me to trust God," Wise said. "I'm going to graduate in December and I'm not sure where I'm going to go, but I know God can use me anywhere."

Brain Teasers: Answers from 6b

Sudoku

3	4	8	9	6	7	5	1	2
2	5	7	4	8	1	3	6	9
6	9	1	5	2	3	8	7	4
7	2	9	3	5	4	1	8	6
1	8	6	7	9	2	4	5	3
5	3	4	6	1	8	9	2	7
4	6	3	1	7	5	2	9	8
9	1	2	8	4	6	7	3	5
8	7	5	2	3	9	6	4	1

Cryptique

-Eleanor Roosevelt
"CONSENT"
YOUR
WITHOUT
INFERIOR
YOU FEEL
CAN MAKE
ONE ON,"

Answers To Last Week's Crossword Puzzle

AMPS	CEDED	BRAD
SEAL	AMUSE	REBA
ASIA	SCOPE	OMEN
PANCAKES	SKATE	
KNEE	ASTER	
SHEET	GHERKIN	
STERN	SARI	SADE
LEA	TRICEPS	BLT
ANDS	OGEE	TALES
GOLIATH	FACES	
INLET	PAIR	
ANGUS	HAL ROACH	
RAHS	SEOUL	BILE
ANTE	OVULE	ADAR
BASS	BARON	TEND

This Day In History

- March 21
• (1685) Composer Johann Sebastian Bach born in Eisenach, Germany.
- (1964) UCLA finishes undefeated basketball season (30-0).
- (1986) 199.22 million shares traded on the New York Stock Exchange.

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Blanchard Springs

Exploring The Depths Of 'The Natural State'

By COLEMAN YOAKUM
student reporter

Sometimes here at Harding, I hear native Arkansans refer to their state as "The Natural State." But I don't see it. I mean, sure, I look around and see lots of trees, some rolling hills and a couple impressive rivers, but nothing that I haven't seen in Pennsylvania or East Tennessee. I think that it is a little presumptuous of Arkansas to call itself "The Natural State," because I have not seen much around here to warrant that title.

Last weekend, however, my friend Nicholas asked me if I was interested in taking a day trip up to Blanchard Springs Caverns near Mountain View, Ark. I had heard about this place but honestly knew nothing about it. What kind of gear do I need? How long does this trip take? Do I need to bring a flashlight? Will there be bats? Do I need a rabies vaccine? Is this cave located under Wayne Manor? I had no idea. Luckily, they were easy to find via google.com and I was able to ask all of these questions to a little lady named Janice who answered the phone when I called them.

Nicholas and I decided to go after church on Sunday afternoon. All we lacked was a couple of girls to come with us, and once we filled those slots we were ready to go.

On any road trip you have to keep your priorities straight. One of the most important priorities is food. The Bulldog in Bald Knob served as the best possible option to take care of that need. We pulled in around 1 p.m. and were able to join in on the post-church rush. The Bulldog is, as I am learning, not too unique. It seems everyone knows about a burger place like it back in his or her hometowns. Nicholas, the girls and I sat around and told stories about similar places where we grew up. Places with names like Hightower's, the Grill and Barney's are all over

the place and no matter how far you are from home it is great to be able to stop into a place that can take you back there for a little while.

We left the Bulldog and headed off to Mountain View. The road north is a great example of the hills and trees that I talked about earlier. Even in the fall, the hills were nice to look at, and from time to time you will come around a turn to see a pretty scene off in one direction or the other. I am sure the scenery would be even more stunning in the spring and fall seasons, but even still, it was a fun drive to look at. The scenery was quite "natural" but could have just as easily been found in many of the United States.

Mountain View is a small town of nearly 2,800 residents, but more than 30,000 tourists visit from April through September. Mountain View is a modern day Mecca for anything arts, crafts, folk music and Ozark shopping. Every year, Mountain View plays host to the Ozark Folk Festival, Bean-fest, an annual Outhouse race, a Bluegrass festival and Super Cruise, which is a week-long 1950s-themed car show. The other six months of the year, however, the town is very small and quiet, giving no indication of the other six months of hysteria.

The scene was hardly peaceful when we pulled into town. On the same night the tornados hit Clinton, Ark., a tornado had blown through Mountain View. While we were driving into town, people were cleaning up, moving debris and burning downed trees that had fallen. It was very easy to see the

path the tornado had taken through this town. Off to the left you could see a place where the trees had begun to part and it had come west to east, across the road we were sitting on, and into a neighborhood on our right before stopping. The damage was about a mile long and 100 yards wide, but on either side of that path you could hardly tell anything had happened. The historic part of town that generates most of the town's revenue was untouched.

We pulled into the parking lot of Blanchard Springs Caverns about 3 p.m. that afternoon. We were met in the parking lot by a park ranger named Bill. He told us that a group had just gone into the cave and another group would

leave at 4:15. He encouraged us to go look at the exhibits on Blanchard Springs as well as watch the movie about the cave that was showing in a little theater.

None of those things sounded very interesting, but with nothing else to do for the next hour and 15 minutes, we complied. The exhibit was very well put together, though just by looking at the map of the cave you could assume it was in Arkansas. Parts of the cave were named things like, "Big Room" and "Bigger Room" as well as a "Big Flat Room." There were also displays that said things like, "Vampires are our friends" which was about different bat species that live in the Ozarks.

After learning a bat can eat about 3,000 bugs in a night, we moved on to the little theater to watch the presentation on Blanchard Springs. The video told us some facts about the cave, like how it was discovered in 1963,

native American bones have been found there and then the less impressive things about how it was formed over thousands of years by water. The end credits featured a song about how it was a palace underground by some local artist.

It was about this time we realized we were the only people there. We walked out and looked around. Nobody. When we ran into Ranger Bill again he said to us, "Well, guys, looks like you get a private tour today." What luck!

Ranger Bill was a very interesting person. Not only was he filled with fun facts about the cave, but he had also lived a pretty full life. He had been an insurance salesman, teacher, school administrator and now was an Ozark cave guide. Often after slamming us with cool cave facts he would ask if we had any questions. Most of the time our questions were like, "So how did you end up becoming a cave guide?" He was full of fun stories as well as the typical fun facts about the cave. Along the way he would point out various rocks and say things like, "See that Battleship" or "people say that looks like an Arkansas Razorback" or "and here is a bust of Richard Nixon."

The trail you walk through in the cave is paved and very easy to do. They've even made it wheelchair accessible. The temperature underground is a constant 57 degrees, so it was actually warmer underground than it was outside once we had finished. All you need to do this tour is a nice sweater, some good friends and hopefully a guide as cool as Bill.

As for my issues with the title "The Natural State," I am beginning to understand a little more why it is called that. Sure, we have the same rolling hills every other state has and the same trees and lakes and rivers. But we have some beautiful things you can't find in other places. However, we just hide them underground.

